New labor surge

In the fields
At the rail yard
On the auto line
At City Hall
And in Italy

PEOPLE'S WORLD

San Francisco ** Final

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Exclusive: New Engels writing discovered

See page 6

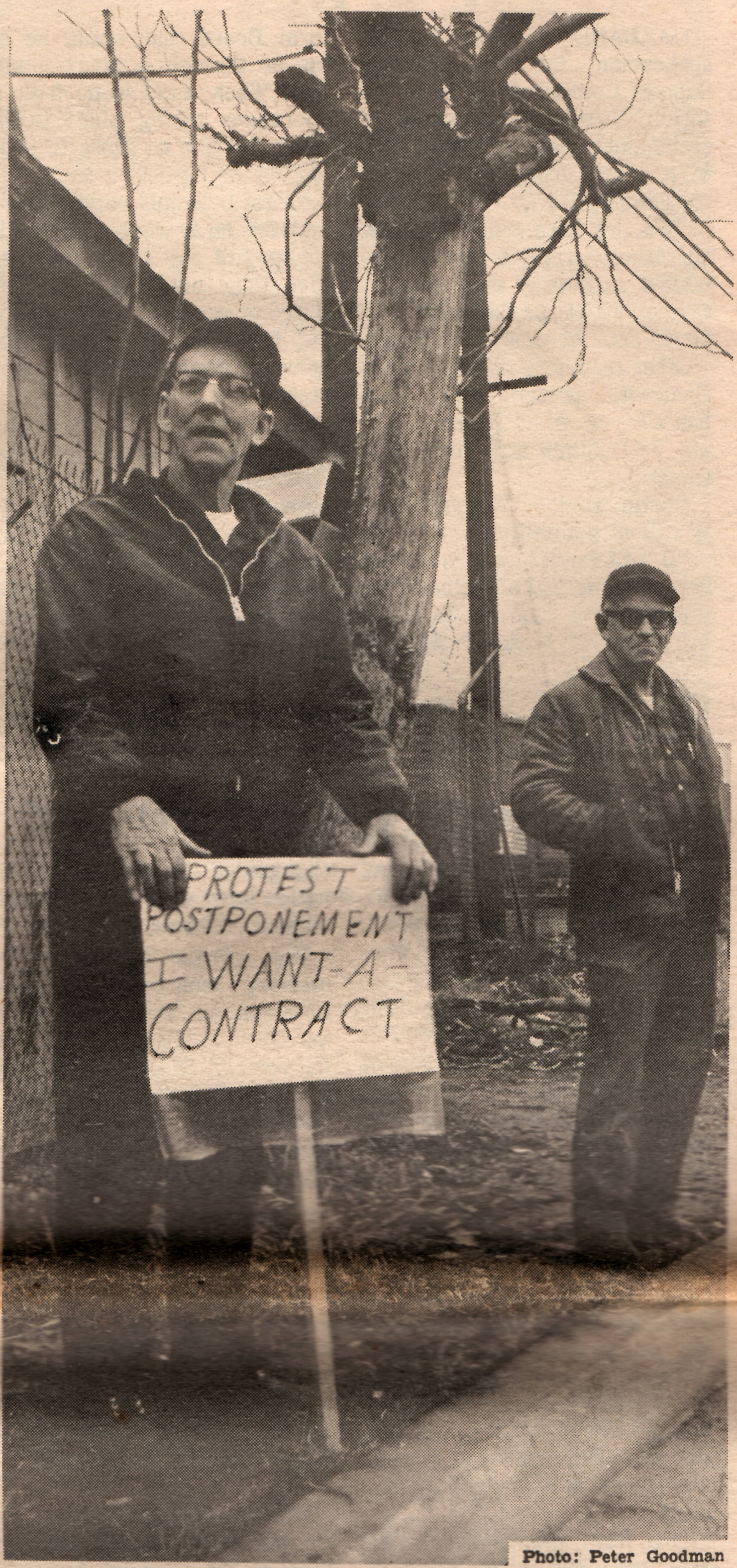

Photo: Peter Goodman

Railroad worker at Roseville, California.

The Alioto Fault

Public workers shake city of San Francisco

By STEPHANIE ALLAN

SAN FRANCISCO — It won't be a general strike, but when the city employes of San Francisco go out for a living wage this week, the labor movement of this town is going to back them up almost unanimously.

John Jeffrey of Local 400 of the City and County Employes hopes to shut down the port, the Muni Railway, the airport, S. F. general hospital as well as city offices.

After the Board of Supervisors voted unanimously (March 9) to accept the recommendations of the Legislative and Personnel Committee on salaries for city employes, an angered Tim Twomey of the Hospital and Institutional Workers Union, Local 250, shouted, "strike."

At a meeting of Local 400 and members of Civil Service Building Maintenance Union, Local 66A which was, in the words of one union representative, "the biggest meeting ever for either union," the vote was overwhelming to strike as soon as sanction is granted by the S F. Labor Council.

John Squire, head of the Transport Workers Union, could not be reached for comment on his union's support for the upcoming strike. His secretary said he was "out of town until next week."

But many observers say feeling among Muni men, especially black drivers, is running high in support of the janitors and car cleaners. Many are expected to honor the lines.

(Continued on page 10)

GLUT for the corporations means unemployment for the autoworkers. Over 147,000 workers were laid off by General Motors and Chrysler in the last few weeks as inflation cut deeply into car sales. Shown are 1970 Chryslers stored on the Michigan State Fairgrounds in Dertoit.

GM & Ford hide layoff statistics

By STEPHANIE ALLAN

SAN FRANCISCO — Union leaders in Detroit are charging the major auto companies with hiding the actual layoff figures for the industry. People's World inquiries here would seem to confirm the charge.

Officials of the General Motors plant in Fremont, California aren't giving any misleading figures. They aren't giving out any numbers.

All the GM brass in Fremont would do is confirm what the people in the plant already knew — the place is closing down March 19 and 20.

Claiming they are doing it to bring "production in line with sales," the big three auto companies are laying off thousands of workers and closing plants all over the country.

ECONOMIC CRISIS

Layoffs come at a time when the record high profits are contributing to the war-induced inflation eating away at workers' take home checks.

The layoffs are creating economic crisis for many auto workers' families, particularly where the worker has not been on the job long enough to draw adequate unemployment benefits.

Fear for the future, if these developments continue, is growing in communities tied to auto production.

The auto layoffs are at this moment a particularly acute manifestation of what is happening in other production industries. Layoffs in the aircraft and armaments field have had a severe impact on communities in Southern California and the Pacific Northwest.

The total jobless rate for the country stood in February at 4.2% — the highest figure in over four years.

Exactly how many workers are affected by the auto layoffs is not known.

The Wall Street Journal last week reported the Ford Motor Company will shut six assembly plants for periods of five to 11 days this month. The paper estimated 17,200 workers will be laid off.

During January and February,

(Continued on Page 4)

'His approach to life must be defeated'

Murphy's anti-strike farm bill blasted

OAKLAND — Nick Delara, spokesman for the Citizen's Support Committee, of the California Grape Boycott read a statement of less than 500 words to a small group of newsmen on Friday, March 6.

"We are here today to show our disapproval and that of concerned citizens of this state, at the actions of the Southern California Senator George Murphy."

Other members of the Support Committee present were; Rueben Chavez, Abba Ramos, Ronald V. Dellums and Venustiano Olquin.

Olquin said, "Murphy's bill is still in committee.

"It will outlaw strikes during harvest time and any other time deemed as a time not to strike by either a National Agricultural Board that would be set up, or through a court injunction. When there is no fruit or operations taking place in the fields there is no sense in striking.

"First he would outlaw strikes and the farm workers would be stripped of any economic power that they may have. Second, boycotts would be made illegal. So, for example it would become a conspiracy for me to stand here and ask you not to shop at stores that carry grapes.

"The law is blatantly unconstitutional. However, once it is passed, the litigation in the courts would put the farm workers movement in danger."

The support committee leveled their protest against "those who oppose human justice and dignity" by oppressing men's right to democratic redress and satisfaction."

Murphy was accused of being an arch enemy of the farm workers and the people of the state. It was said:

- "He is in opposition to any affirmative action which would give the farm workers the right to collective bargaining.
- "He has endorsed the actions of the Los Angeles police in their military attacks on the Black Panther headquarters.
- "He has used fascist tactics to suppress the voice of the oppressed from reaching the people of this state.
- "He has worked hard against the issues of poisons and pesticides.
- "The only concern of the politicians in a democracy is the people; they themselves have no value or have no opinion which should be recognized by the people. Thus, we are here today to show our disapproval of this tyrant and his lackeys in the valley. It is the ultimate end that democracy be restored and that all people enjoy the right of redress and satisfaction. We will protest and confront the Senator wherever his presence commands until our grievance is satisfied to the letter.

Ronald V. Dellums then spoke:

"I have been involved in working with the Citizen's Support Committee for a long time. We successfully introduced and passed a resolution calling for the city council's support in the grape boycott and calling on all citizens of Berkeley to do the same," said Dellums.

"The third part of that resolution was to direct all departments to stop any purchase of grapes."

"So that my presence here today is only a continued concern with respect to the nature of danger on the part of farm workers, consumers of food and also the right of people to negotiate the terms under which they shall work or not work." Dellums said.

He concluded, "If the federal government stops spending $8 million a year to purchase grapes to undermine the farm workers I think you'll find that the grape strike will have a tremendous effect on this country. I find it a real tragedy this response to corporate power. Senator Murphy's attitude and approach to life must be defeated."

Longshoreman Leo Kroll passes

SAN FRANCISCO—Leo Kroll, veteran of longshore struggles, trade unionist, well known peace worker and supporter of young draft resisters, passed away a week ago.

He is most recently remembered as the cook at the Monday night dinners of the Resistance at the Howard Presbyterian Church.

A special memorial for Leo Kroll is being planned by his friends, young and old, for Sunday, March 15, from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Howard Presbyterian Church at Oak and Baker sts.

There will be a program of music, poetry and talks of Leo's contributions. Refreshments will be served and a collection taken for peace organizations.

All friends of peace are invited to attend.

Sonoma rally cheers Goodlett call: 'Our liberty tied to the Panthers'

SANTA ROSA — Black and white organizations came together in a rally here last week, to speak out for the Black Panther party.

Dr. Carlton Goodlett, publisher of the San Francisco Sun-Reporter, was roundly cheered when he told the gathering, "Our personal safety, our personal liberty, is tied up with the safety and liberty of the Black Panthers.

"Everywhere in the world," he said, "the most powerful instrument of oppression . . . happens to be capitalist U.S. Foolishly, black men are fighting yellow men in Vietnam." He said it was inevitable that authorities would seek to "decimate" the Panthers because they are black, militant, armed, courageous and Marxist in ideology.

"We have constitutional fascism now. But we're going to have total fascism unless you, you and you run to the barricades," he said, and urged their defense of the Black Panthers.

He reminded the listeners that "None of the great social changes in the history of this nation have ever been achieved without violence . . ."

The groups sponsoring the meeting included the Santa Rosa-Sonoma county branch of the NAACP, People for a Better Society, Black Students Unions from Santa Rosa Junior College and Sonoma State College, and the Jewish Cultural Clubs of Petaluma and Cotati.

"IF WE STAND BY . . ."

Gilbert Gray, of NAACP, also addressing the crowd of 300 persons, warned: "If we stand by and let them shoot all the Panthers, . . . and all the blacks, who's going to be left? The things the Panthers want are the things we all want, the tactics may be different, but that's it."

Among other speakers was Peter Martinez. Voicing the concern of the Mexican-American community, he said the injustice being committed against the Panthers "is an injustice against all of us. The Black Panther party was organized to help the people — to save mankind."

The rally also sent a telegram to President Nixon, calling for indictment of Georgia Gov. Lester Maddox and former Ala. governor George Wallace—for conspiracy to incite riot — the same charge used to convict the "Chicago Seven."

The telegram said "In view of the recent brutal attacks on school children and the wilfull destruction of government property at Lamar, S.C., we demand that you immediately order Attorney Gen. John Mitchell and the Justice Department to indict Gov. Lester Maddox and Gov. George Wallace on charges of conspiracy."

The telegram charged the two with crossing state lines "to incite riots, to attempt murder of children, and to commit destruction of government property."

"We cannot," they said, tolerate a double standard of justice in the U.S."

They also charged that the two had called a "secret meeting of sourthern governors to advocate violence in opposition to the 1965 Civil Rights Act."

WHILE THESE THREE negotiators met, the Nixon administration moved to block a strike by four shopcraft railroad unions. From left Assistant Labor Secretary William J. Usery; John P. Hiltz for the railroads and William W. Winpisinger for the unions.

Jewish group says stop terror against Panthers

PETALUMA — The Jewish Cultural Club of this Northern California city recently issued a statement expressing their concern over the victimization of the Black Panther party. Their statement was forwarded to Att'y Gen. Mitchell, Senators Cranston and Murphy, and to Congressman Don Clausen.

They declared:

"We view with great alarm the terror raids by the police in various parts of the country against the Black Panther party, which have all indications of a coordinated conspiracy on the part of the federal authorities to destroy the Black Panther party.

"In the course of these raids 28 Black Panthers were killed and scores were thrown into jail on trumped-up charges.

"These genocidal tactics by the police undermine the very foundations of law and justice in a democratic society, and have deprived the Panthers of their constitutional rights.

"The destruction of the Black Panther party serves the aims of the reactionary and racist forces in our country to intimidate the black community in their just struggle for civil rights and human dignity.

"This terror if continued will accelerate the tension, oppression and racial discord in our country.

"We, as American citizens of Jewish descent, who for centuries felt the whip of persecution, identify ourselves with the just struggle of the Negro people for freedom and we call upon Attorney General Mitchell and all federal, state and local authorities to stop the unjust terror raids against the Black Panthers and call to justice those responsible for the murders.

"We are supporting the defense of the Black Panthers in spite of the fact that we disagree with many of their policies and tactics. We are identifying ourselves with all freedom and liberty loving people in our land in support of the Black Panthers as a service to preserve democracy."

HONOR AND TRIBUTE is paid to former People's World Editor Al Richmond at a banquet in his honor on March 7. Over 250 persons attended the highly successful affair at Berkeley's Le Petit Village which also welcomed new editor Carl Bloice. In the foreground with Richmond is Atty. Doris Brin Walker, master of ceremonies for the evening.

New tone to women's rally

SAN FRANCISCO — Women "have to get together," Mary Lou Greenberg told an International Women's Day rally of about 500 persons last Sunday (March 8), "to find out our problems aren't individual but caused by this society."

These remarks by Mrs. Greenberg of the San Jose Workers Committee — who also emphasized that "to unite working people now we have to change the ways men and women relate"— represented the general tone of what came down at the rally.

Black, brown, yellow and white women were talking about their particular struggle and the general struggle for liberation. And although the crowd was made up of predominantly young radicals, the rally — held in Dolores Park in the largely Chicano Mission District — did attract some members of that community.

The rally was a sharp departure from the approach that equates women's liberation with achievement of personal liberation and freedom. "No longer is it possible," Mrs. Greenberg said, "for the individual to be free without changing society. Individual solutions are available only for the wealthy."

Indeed, those who participated in the rally included women who have been active in organizations working toward changing society: a member of the United Asian Women who had been on the Venceremos Brigade; a member of the Black Panther party; a member of the workers committee at San Francisco General Hospital, a member of the defense committee for Los Siete de la Raza; a member of the Welfare Rights Organization.

Carmen Carillo, the Los Siete activist, told the crowd the day "should be a day to rejoice in the role of women struggling against imperialism . . . I look forward to the day when we can do some creative things. We have to begin to be creative, to move and to take a few more risks."

WOMEN'S
POWER
FREE US

Santos Soll photo

A PRESENTATION by a women's guerilla theater group — complete with a paper movie — was one of the high points of the International Women's Day rally in San Francisco's Dolores Park.

Tenants plan to hang tough in San Francisco rent strike

SAN FRANCISCO — A major rent strike has hit the tenements of the Western Addition. Monday, March 9, the 43 tenants of 829 Fell street set to work to carry out the repairs and maintenance on the rundown building whose owners are suddenly nowhere to be seen.

The tenants of the building, began by boarding up the open elevator shaft, cleaning the debris and garbage from between the alleyway on the sides of the building, and began the huge job of painting and repairing.

In the meantime, the owner is not getting the steep $140 per month rent for the dangerous, heatless apartments. Who the owner is, is in some doubt. Paramount Properties, 1255 Post street denies ownership, yet it continues to try to collect rents.

Mike Smith, his wife and two young children have lived in the building for 18 months and have had their rent raised four times. The rent has soared from $115 to $140.

Of the 16 apartments, 13 are occupied. Nine children live there. Smith said, "They (Paramount Properties) have broken their company up into a number of small companies and are very hard to reach. Conditions are such that tenants only stay 3 or 4 months."

The striking tenants are demanding rent be reduced to $50 a month until all deficiences are removed, and negotiations for fair rents. They want a withdrawal of all existing or impending eviction notices and a return of deposits under former landlord contracts.

The strike pledge was signed by all tenants in the building. And they intend to hang tight until their demands are met.

Black Caucus: new charge on Oakland taxes

OAKLAND — Added to the current crisis of the Oakland Board of Education is the Oakland Black Caucus' implied threat last week to possibly oppose the city's tax proposals when they are submitted to the voters.

Last June the Black Caucus campaigned against a tax proposal and the black community rejected it two to one.

Caucus Co-Chairman Elijah Turner charged last week, "The board is unable to govern, manage or control the schools. In the last three years the Board has repeatedly breached the confidence of the students, parents and taxpayers of the Oakland community."

Statements issued by the Caucus indicate the group believes that unless it can persuade the board to develop a master plan, involve the students and the community in selecting a new superintendent and upgrading blacks in the school's administration, "we will be selling our youth short."

Meetings to discuss new P&F campaigns

BERKELEY — Peace & Freedom party registrants from throughout Northern California will have a chance this Saturday (March 14) to discuss organization around the party's 1970 campaign.

A conference is set for Finn Hall, 1819 Tenth street in Berkeley, from 10 a.m. to 5 p. m. Included on the agenda will be discussions with candidates and workshops on campaign strategy and organization.

One subject that may come up at the meeting is the question of running a P&F candidate in the Seventh Congressional District, where black community spokesman Ron Dellums is seeking the Democratic nomination.

Some backers of a P&F candidate emphasize it would be "against incumbent Jeffrey Cohelan and the Republican candidate — not against Dellums" and claim it wouldn't undercut the Dellums effort.

Other P&F activists, however, feel that whatever the intention of such a campaign, it would be seen as divisive and as a denial to the right of minority communities to seek political repesentation as they choose.

This, they say, would alienate the social base P&F needs if it is to become meaningful.

(Primaries are open to any qualified P&F registrant and whatever is decided Saturday will only reflect the relation of the core of P&F activists in that district toward the campaign.)

An 8 p. m. rally will follow the conference, set for Lincoln school, Price and King streets in Berkeley, where potential P&F candidates are set to speak.

The candidates are also slated to speak Sunday night (March 15) at a 7:30 benefit dinner — to raise the steep filing fees — sponsored by San Francisco P&F at Connie's Restaurant, 1907 Fillmore street, S. F. For more information call 863-8834.

In Sonoma county, Irv Sutley, chairman of the P&F county central committee, is running for sheriff on a program that includes disarming deputies on routine patrols and recruiting more minority personnel.

Those who can help raise his filing fee — needed before next weekend — may send contributions to the Sutley for Sheriff Campaign, P.O. Box 154, Cotati, Calif. 94928.

People's World: get it to the people

SAN FRANCISCO — An East Bay supporter of The People's World takes a bundle of 650 papers every week.

These are all rack sales she has established. Over 250 copies go on racks around the University of California campus. This is the kind of activity that almost any readers' group — or, as in this case, one person — can do, at least in a small way.

Just find a good spot — a plant gate, a supermarket, a bus stop, where workers or students gather; call the paper and ask for a rack and a bundle of papers (maybe a small bundle to begin with) and see what you can do. We'll help with the details.

In San Francisco, a longtime reader of the paper took over a list of five stores where the paper had been introduced. She dropped one, added five more— a record store, three book stores and a bead shop. She now handles 45 papers a week.

She'd like to have a volunteer in North Beach take over three spots there and another volunteer for the Fillmore so she'd have time to find new locations.

Around the Bay . . .

Brecht play given in Mill Valley

MILL VALLEY — Bertolt Brecht's "The Good Woman of Setzuan" is being presented by the Mill Valley Center for the Performing Arts in a production directed by Philip Larson.

Nancy Argue as Shen Te, Albert Cingolani as Wong and Manny Brookman as the First God turn in especially impressive performances.

The play is a mixture of human and social satire. The set reflects the poverty of old China and is an effective contrast to the abstract, modernistic tone of the play.

Death takes Ewing Siblett

SAN FRANCISCO — Ewing Sibbett, attorney and long time friend of the People's World, died Sunday, March 8. The time and place of memorial services will be announced.

He was a leading expert in the field of workmen's compensation and injured workers' cases

Sibbett, who graduated from Stanford Law School, became interested in progressive movements during the time of the great union organizing drives of the 30's.

BS&T slated for Oakland Coliseum

OAKLAND — One of the most successful pop groups, Blood, Sweat and Tears, will be appearing at the Oakland Coliseum on March 21st at 8:30 p.m.

Winner of five Grammy nominations in 1970, BS&T has two "million seller" albums. It includes former Blues Project guitarist, Steve Katz, and bassist Jim Fielder from the Mothers of Invention and Buffalo Springfield.

Tickets are available from regular outlets and start at $3.50.

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New thousands hit in national auto layoffs

(Continued from Page 1)

28,200 Ford employees were idled when 10 of the company's 16 plants shut down for varying times.

PW correspondent William Allan reports from Detroit that the United Auto Workers say the companies are hiding the actual figures.

In addition to the straight layoffs, union representatives say thousands of workers are putting in "short weeks." An example is the GM Fremont plant.

The UAW international office in Detroit reports layoff figures of 11,000 at Chrysler, 11,000 at Ford and 4,400 at GM. GM has admitted to 2,200 new indefinite layoffs.

These men and women won't be called back until after September, the union charged.

In Detroit the effects of the layoffs were immediately felt by the unemployment office which normally processes about 4,000 cases per week. Last week it handled over 20,000.

The other form of cutback is the layoff for one week, or two weeks, or the three or four day week. This affects thousands in the industry, and the union says the figures fluctuate wildly.

Some union leaders in Detroit told Allan the figures on indefinite layoffs for Ford, Chrysler and GM will be closer to 15,000 for each manufacturer.

This includes those in supplier shops, parts plants and tool and die shops whose work depends on big three production.

Ford's indefinite layoffs will include 1,550 workers in Dallas where the assembly plant is being closed permanently.

Ford has said its sales are down 7.6% which makes the layoffs necessary.

It is against this background the UAW goes into 1970 contract negotiations. Current contracts are scheduled to run out in June and July.

Karl Hoehne, president of UAW Local 560 at the Ford plant in Milpitas, charged that Ford could not get away with its arbitrary plant closings in any of its overseas operations.

"The fact of the matter is," he said, "executives have to agree with the overseas governments in advance to locate in government specified labor market areas, and they cannot transfer operations on a hunch, but only with government approval."

"Unemployment is not an act of nature," Hoehne said, "it is an act of man and it is by human action, by sensible and compassionate action, that we must cope with these hazards . . ."

He called for not only compensating the displaced worker, but providing for his "prompt reemployment."

One of the reasons for slumping car sales, say many union representatives, are the inflated prices charged to maintain the companies enormous profits.

Hoehne outlined the cost of a Ford Galaxie to illustrate the mark-ups over the actual cost of production.

To make one car:

Labor costs — $57.85; regular material for standard model — $1,360.38; minor material (glue, solder, paint) — $20.23; standard parts (screws, bolts, etc.) — $16.32; material transportation — $19.98; light, power, depreciation — $145.12.

Total cost to Ford is $1,327.37. The dealer pays $1,621.88. The buyer pays $2,676.82.

The mark-up over the cost of production is $1,349.45. More than the original cost of making the car, and it's all profit.

"The most arrogant larceny," though, Hoehne said is the cost of optional equipment.

He compared the cost of the production with the price the dealer pays.

Special transmission: cost $54.24; dealer pays $136.89; AM radio: $21.74; dealer pays $40.16, tires: cost $13.01; dealer pays $46.72, seat belts: cost $5.93; dealer pays $10.17, airconditioning: cost $158.48; dealer pays $250.14.

"Is this why car sales are down?" Hoehne asked. "No one can afford to buy when the company is making such profits as these."

The UAW is holding its 22nd convention in Atlantic City in late April. Election of delegates, now taking place in auto plants across the country, has raised some of the gripes union members have beyond demands for higher wages.

PRODUCTION CONTROL

At the GM Fremont plant one of the demands circulating in the shop is the right to negotiate with the company before they overload jobs, discipline workers and set the line speed.

The contract, signed in 1967 and expiring this year, says "the products to be manufactured, the location of plants, the schedules of production . . . are solely and exclusively the responsibility of the company."

Speed-up grievances (or grievances on the schedule of production) comprise about half of those grievances in process, say union representatives.

Another demand centers around elimination of the umpire system. If a grievance can't be settled at a plant level, then it goes to an "impartial umpire." His salary is paid half by the company and half by the union.

Union members charge that the "impartial" unmpires rule consistently in favor of the company and want to get rid of the procedure.

Umpires have final authority in most grievance cases with the important exception of speedup complaints.

That is a strikeable issue, but written into the '67 contract is a no strike clause.

Another demand is for a minimum $1 an hour wage increase at the start of a new contract. This is necessary, say the auto workers, because of the cuts inflation has made in their take home pay.

The determination on a rank and file level to win these and other demands is reflected in the willingness to strike and stay out. The 1967 contract was only agreed to after eight weeks of striking.

Many union members say international president Walter Reuther's strategy of picking one company as a "target" does not work. They want to shut down the entire industry if they go out.

General Motors is already preparing its propaganda which is based on company-worker cooperation.

To explain the program, GM commissioned Dr. Patricia Shontz, an editorial writer for the right wing, anti-union Detroit News, to write a pamphlet explaining how to keep real wages rising in the face of a recession.

To justify the cutbacks and layoffs, Dr. Shontz says, "If the closing down is a temporary dip, it may not have any great effect.

"Productivity does not rise in a smooth, straight line. It has its up and downs. It is the long term trend in the nation's productivity that counts."

SHONTZ LAW

Explaining why speedup is necessary, Dr. Shontz says, "Lower productivity means lower real wages — a lower standard of living. That is an economic law that can never be repealed."

Dr. Shontz has an answer for the future: "Progress in the future can be just as great as it has been in the past — or even greater provided management and labor continue to work together in a common effort toward their common goal — continually rising productivity and improvement in the standard of living."

For the auto worker this means speedup, layoffs and trying to make ends meet during those "ups and downs" that this GM propagandist speaks of so lightly.

Unfortunately, the union contract doesn't provide much of an alternative.

It says "a continuing improvement in the standard of living of employes depends upon technological progress, better tools, methods, processes and equipment and a *cooperative attitude* (italics added—S.A.) on the part of all parties in such progress."

Further the current contract says "the principle that to produce more with the same amount of human effort is a sound economic and social objective."

To anybody who knows anything about the auto industry this translates as speedup and cutting back on the number of workers. This year, it seems, there are thousands of men and women in the plants who aren't buying it and say they're willing to strike to prove it.

I PROTEST
POSTPONEMENT
I WANT A
CONTRACT

Photo: Peter Goodman

SOUTHERN PACIFIC railroad workers at Roseville and Sacramento are still rankled, though they've called off their week-long "protest," which idled 2,000 and held up trains. They were registering resentment at SP's stall on wage negotiations. A strike is still imminent.

PEOPLE'S WORLD

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On the LINE

PUBLIC EMPLOYES still lead all other labor groups in California in signing up new members.

Figures recently released by the Department of Industrial Relations revealed that by July 1969, membership in the state's unions had reached an all time high of 2,085,700.

But the new dues cards issued still lagged behind the growth of the state's workforce. Between July, 1968 and July, 1969, union membership increased 2.4%. Nonfarm employment rose during the same period 4.1%.

The largest overall gain was registered by the public workers who added 11,200 members over the year's period.

Organizing by hospital worker's unions resulted in 7,800 signups.

Most of the other advances made came in wholesale and retail industries, transportation and warehousing.

Manufacturing and construction industries remained about the same with a slight advance.

A sharp decrease in aircraft and missile production resulted in a decrease of 8,700 in the number of members in the transportation equipment and ordnance industries, mostly in Southern California.

In the San Diego area and in Northern California, construction unions registered some increase in membership but the building trades locals in Los Angeles-Long Beach lost 2,000 members over the year's duration.

* * *

IN JANUARY unemployment in the black community reached 6.3% an increase over the 5.7% registered in January 1969.

* * *

GENERAL ELECTRIC'S strike problems aren't over, not by a long shot.

On March 4, fifteen hundred GE workers and supporters marched through the streets of San Juan, Puerto Rico in a dramatic demonstration backing up the struggle for union recognition at a plant there.

The strike began Oct. 28 when the company choose to ignore the fact that the workers had selected the International Assn. of Machinists at their bargaining agent.

After the affiliation vote was taken the company appealed to the National Labor Relations Board. While the appeal was being considered, management fired eight employees. While the union was appealing the firings, another 20 persons were canned.

The union went on to win two more elections and each time it was ignored by the company. As time went on more workers were fired.

For 14 years GE has operated 19 non-union plants in Puerto Rico. The union movement is being spearheaded by workers in the Rio Grande plant which stands across the city boundaries of Rio Grande and Loiza.

The mayors of both cities took part in the giant demonstration which ended up at the office of Gov. Louis Ferre. They protested the governor's silence on the strike struggle and GE's behavior.

—COMRADE

Workers' control, student-worker unity

Italy: why 19 million marched

FIOM
FIM
LEGHE B. S. PAOLO
AGNELLI NON ILLUDERTI TUO PADRE HA TROVATO L'UOMO DELLA PROVVIDENZA TU NON LO TROVERAI!
MERCOLEDI' 19 NOVEMBRE
SCIOPERO NAZIONALE di 24 ore
CGIL - CISL - UIL
Per la casa

TURIN. Solferino Square during the general strike.

ROME

By LUCA PAVOLINI

The following are excerpts from an article on the recent labor upsurge in Italy. It was written by the director of Rinascita, a journal of the Communist party of Italy. In it Pavolini describes the role of the attack on work rules, automation and other "management prerogatives," as well as the role of the student movement in the current crisis in Italy.

The movement of workers' strikes which developed during the autumn of 1969 — according to the general opinion — was the most powerful in postwar Italy.

Over five million workers took part in strikes and other forms of struggle. In the forefront were the workers of the most important categories: metal workers. Those employed in the chemical industry, construction workers.

Although in the end agreements were concluded on the renewal of national, collective contracts, with these categories, too, the struggle is far from over.

Public employes and transport workers are still fighting for their rights while some other categories — for example, textile workers, whose national contracts are about to expire, are just preparing for new battles.

The basic sense of the movement under way stems from the relationship between its aims and its scope; from the fact that it by no means suited the character of the workers' new demands to confine the struggle to individual, vanguard sections of the working class.

Indeed, the scope of the movement which has encompassed the forces and masses is unprecedented. These circumstances have logically given the trade unions' struggles a distinctively political character.

The struggles began over the renewal of national work contracts, whose terms usually expires every two or three years.

The platforms of the trade unions' demands for the renewal of contracts contained a number of new elements.

SELENIA
FIM FIOM UILM
VOX
UNITA SINDACALE
FIM-FIOM-UILM-MASSEY-FERGUSON-APRILIA (LT)
CONTRATTO O RIVOLUZIONE?
UNITA DEI LAVORATORI CONTRO L'AUTORITARISMO E LA PREPOTENZA DEI PADRONI
FATME

VENICE. After the general strike, a national metalworkers strike.

Naturally demands were formulated for higher earnings which are justified by the constant rise of living costs and the fact that the wages and education in Italy are the lowest within the Common Market.

However, the demands also concerned a number of other aspects of working relations affecting the working conditions: working time, the working week, the rhythm of production (particularly in factories with a high degree of mechanization and automation), health protection, safety, the number of employed from group to group, from one department to another.

The workers' organizations demanded the right to control, the right to discussion and the right to intervention in all these matters.

It was pointed out that to leave it to the owners to decide by themselves the working hours, the rhythm of production, the number of employed in every department would mean enabling these very same owners to increase the exploitation of workers at will after every innovation in the technology or organization of the factory.

CONTROL CONDITIONS

In this manner even the most substantial increases in earnings are quickly re-absorbed.

The trade unions, therefore, gave priority in their demands to the problem of control of working conditions in a modern factory. They requested that workers' representatives be granted the right to discuss with the management of their enterprise all the consequences of technological and organizational advances. all matters pertaining to working conditions, health protection, etc. It is thus a matter of genuinely changing the ratio of forces within the factory.

This means above all that the workers and their trade unions are no longer prepared to wait for their contract to expire before beginning to fight for better working conditions in the new contract.

Nor are they prepared any longer to guarantee the owner "social peace" for a period of two or three years between the signing of two contracts.

They wish to have the right and possibility to influence the owner's decision at any moment and in any enterprise.

This aspect of the struggle of the working class in every individual enterprise constituted the main cause of the autumn movement.

Private owners and particularly the large monopolists associated in their association, Confindustry, refused even to consider these demands.

In view of the favorable trends in the Italian economy at that time they were ready both to increase substantially workers' earnings and to shorten working hours, and in some cases to consent to a "short working week."

But they were resolutely opposed to the possibility that the workers, once the contract has been signed, may interfere in the management of the enterprise before the contract has expired. It is understandable why the struggle has been such a fierce one.

In the course of these struggles the working class also developed new forms of organization and representation better suited to its demands.

NEW INSTRUMENTS

It was necessary to find new instruments. For example, the working class could no longer be content with the workers' internal commissions which were elected by the collectives of individual enterprises and which represented the interests of the working collectives, as a whole, before the management of the enterprise.

During the most recent strikes, workers and technicians began electing delegates of departments and lines of production, people who were well acquainted with their needs, not those of the enterprise as a whole only, but those in every sector of productive activity.

This not only reinforced the workers' positions but gave a new character to the trade unions which in most cases are linked to the real life of their base and which were thus able to find more precise instruments for the conduct of their own activity.

It should be pointed out that none of this would have been possible without another major novelty; the unanimous attitude of the three trade union confederations: the CGIL (the left wing trade unions), the CISL (the Catholic trade unions) and the UIL (the social democratic trade unions).

However, the whole movement would not have taken on such a marked political character and might well have remained confined to the factories had not the trade unions and left wing parties combined the demands for a renewal of national contracts with a series of social problems affecting the living standard of the nation in a most direct manner.

These are the problems of housing, transport, health protection, education, the taxing system, etc.

SOCIAL REFORM

It is impossible to treat all these problems here in detail. It is enough to say that what is involved is the acme of economic and social reform, aims which have for the first time been closely associated with the everyday demands of the working class.

All strata of the population took part in the demonstrations organized by the trade unions.

It is a fact that fighting shoulder to shoulder with the workers were even those citizens of the working people whom it had been difficult to mobilize in the past — technicians and office employes, for instance.

On that day on which a mass of 60,000 metal workers gathered in Rome — a typical bureaucratic and administrative center — to stage a procession through the streets of that city which had a decisive effect on the outcome of the struggle, one could almost physically sense a new consciousness, a new political role, position and strength of the Italian working class.

One should also say something about the manner in which the student movement, sections of the youth and groups of extremists joined the autumn events.

It should be repeated in the first place that the oppositional attitude, the anti-capitalist orientation of considerable sections of student youth and the alliance between the students' and workers' movements are facts of enormous significance.

This is not the ordinary, simple kind of "solidarity." The students have correctly understood that capitalist exploitation starts in school, that the university is organized in a manner best suited to the requirements of large scale financial capital, that their whole future and their future activity are conditioned by the domination of private monopolies over society.

Thus, the students are today natural allies of the working class. For this reason large sections of the student movement cooperated very actively in the workers' struggles.

They were propagators and participants in the workers' demonstrations, they exercised pressure outside factory walls, they offered fierce resistance to the intervention of police.

True, minor groups of youth took up extremist positions, engaged in heated polemics with the trade unions and left wing parties, refused to opt for concrete and precise aims, adopted super revolutionary — in fact, adventurist stands.

This did create difficulties in some cases.

But the manner in which the struggle developed, the exceptional compactness of the workers, the firm unity of the trade unions pushed these extremist positions right into the background of the events.

FIRM ORGANIZATION

The need for firm organization prevailed over tendencies toward spontaneity. For the youth and student movement this was nevertheless an important experience as confirmed by the latest discussion at the university and in the schools, during which many critical and self-critical remarks have been put forth in regard to the past events.

As we have said, the national contracts for the most important categories of workers were finally signed.

As a result, earnings have been noticeably improved, the workers have been accorded equal treatment with office employes during sick leave, the working week will be shortened from 44 to 42 and in some cases to 40 hours; through a network of delegates representing departments and production lines the workers have acquired increased scope for controlling the organization of production and rhythm of work which were earlier the exclusive competence of the owners.

And not only this. The workers have also secured the right to hold meetings within factory walls to discuss general political

(Continued on page 10)

Good & welfare

From Biafra to Sudan

LAST YEAR the big subject was Nigeria. The civil war between the Lagos central government and the breakaway Eastern Region jolted the country and the left. Naturally the big thing that occupied peoples' minds was starving babies, little black children with bellies sticking out. Naturally too, the great anguished cries that went out about the hunger more than often came from people who never raised a voice about the thousands of African children that die of starvation every day outside of Nigeria.

The secessionists lost and the war ended. Nigeria remained a single nation. The moans went up and soon died down. The International Red Cross withdrew its aid efforts and the many "free Biafra" committees folded their tents and moved the show elsewhere. At last Word aid was being rushed to the Eastern Region by the Soviet Red Cross society.

The traveling relief agencies (which are usually tied quite closely to the U.S. CIA) turned up the other day in, of all places, the Sudan. Thus the beneficiaries of their propaganda about starving war refugees won't be the French, Portuguese and Spanish imperialists and their clients in Nigeria. Rather, the concert is being conducted by the Israelis.

What, might one ask, are the Israelis doing in the Sudan, an Arab country? It's quite simple. They're training and equipping an army of the blacks in the Southern region who are Christians. Why? It's all pretty frankly admitted. To overthrow, or at least disrupt and weaken, the central government in Khartum, which just entered an alliance with the government of Abdel Gamel Nasser in the United Arab Republic and the government of nearby Libya.

It must be more than a coincidence that the step up of Israeli activity in the Sudan comes soon after a new left government was installed in the country, one dedicated to further connections with the Arabs nations to the north. Further, the new regime has made clear its intention to remove the former inequities which produced the strife in the southern area.

So we can imagine that we'll hear a chorus to go up very soon concerning starvation among the refugees in southern Sudan. Once again there may spring up almost overnight a string of committees working night and day.

And that money may well become the cause for continued fighting and bloodshed in the area. Rather than bringing peace and a possible settlement to the disputes, the outside "aid" will act to prolong the war, creating the impression in the minds of the rebels that there is wide public support for their cause in the countries of Western Europe and the United States.

What all this adds up to is a massive fraud. The U.S., Britain, France and Israel are suddenly interested in giving assistance to guerilla armies in Asia, Africa and Latin America? It appears that way. But clearly the purpose is not to support unified, strong and independent nations of free people.

No, the motivation in the case of Sudan appears to be what it was in the case of Nigeria. To break up new nations, to render them weaker in the process and to accomplish some cold war end. So if we start to hear concerted pleas for the starving children in South Sudan, refugees from a bitter war, we ought to remember the show's being produced in Israel with money from the USA and the concern has little to do with little babies.

Black African and Arab leaders have warned for years that one of the principal tactics being used by Western imperialists is to try and break up newly independent states. This new Sudan escapade should awaken progressive people in the western countries.

—CARL BLOICE

New historical discovery

'The Communist Credo'— Fre

In 1968, an important discovery was made in West Germany which throws considerable new light on the early days of the international workingmen's movement. It was the unearthing of "The Communist Credo" written by Frederick Engels in 1847.

The Credo is a document of the First Congress of the Communist League and its central committee. It was approved by the Congress for consideration of the local groups.

The minutes of the Congress were not preserved and until last year little was known of its proceedings.

The materials of the Congress passed into the hands of one Frederick Martens, leader of the League's Hamburg Commune. After his death in 1877, they fell into the hands of Dr. E. Wohlwill, a friend of the Martens family.

In 1912 Wohwill turned the documents over to the Hamburg State University. They were sifted through in 1936 but were unused for [illegible] years.

The reports of the Congress proceedings have been made available only through the efforts of historians of Switzerland, the Federal Repuolic of Germany (West) and of the German Democratic Republic (East). Some of the most important work was done by Swiss scholar Bert Andreas.

Engels wrote the Credo although it carries the signatures of leaders of the League, E. Schapper, chairman, and Wilhelm Wolff, secretary. They signed with their pseudonyms, Karl Schill and Heide, respectively.

This is the first publication of this material in the United States.

DRAFT OF "COMMUNIST CREDO"

Question 1: Are you a Communist?

Answer: Yes.

Question 2: What is the objective of Communists?

Answer: To transform society, so that each of its members is able freely to develop and apply his abilities and powers, without at the same time violating the basic conditions of that society.

Question 3: How do you wish to accomplish this aim?

Answer: By abolishing private ownership, which will be replaced by communal property.

Question 4: In what way do you substantiate your communal ownership?

Answer: Firstly, because the development of industry, agriculture, trade and colonialization has created a mass of productive forces and means of subsistence and that the machinery, chemical and other ancillary means make it possible to increase them infinitely.

Secondly, because in the consciousness or sense of each person certain premises exist as unshakable principles, which, being the outcome of the entire process of historical development, require no proof.

Question 5: What are these premises?

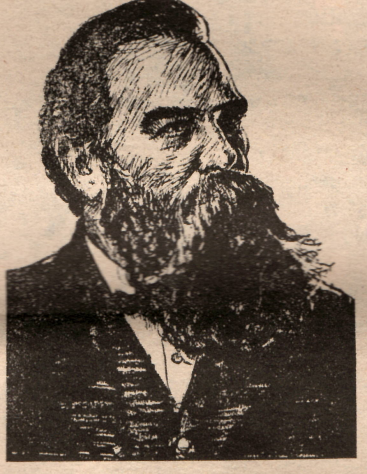
Answer: For instance, everyone wants to be happy. The happiness of an individual is inseparable from the happiness of all, and so forth.

Question 6: How do you want to prepare your communal ownership?

Answer: By enlightenment and unity of the proletariat.

Question 7: What is the proletariat?

Answer: The proletariat is that class of society which procures its means of livelihood entirely and solely from the sale of its labor (later changed to "labor power" by Marx and Engels . . .ed.) and not from profit derived from some capital; whose weal and woe, whose life and death depend therefore, on the alternations of times of good business and times of bad business, in a word, on the fluctuations resulting from competition.



FREDERICK ENGELS

Question 8: Does that mean that the proletariat had not always existed?

Answer: No, not always. Poor and working classes have always existed and as a rule the working people were mostly poor. Proletarians, however, had not always existed, just as competition had not always been free.

Question 9: How did the proletariat arise?

Answer: The proletariat arose as a result of the incorporation of machinery, invented in the latter half of the last century, and the most notable of which were the steam engine, spinning machine and the power-loom. These machines, which were very expensive and, consequently, accessible only to the wealthy, produced cheaper and better commodities than could the workers with their imperfect spinning-wheels and hand-looms, Thus, these machines handed over industry entirely to the big capitalists and rendered the workers' scant property (tools, hand-looms, etc) worthless so that the capitalists soon owned everything and the workers had nothing. In this way the factory system was introduced.

When the capitalist saw how profitable this was for them they tried to spread the factory system to more and more branches of industry. More and more did labor come to be divided among many workers, so that the worker who before had made the entire article, now produced only a part of it. This simplified division of labor, made it possible to supply products more speedily and therefore cheaper, and now in practically all spheres of industry the conclusion was drawn that here too machinery could be employed.

As soon as the factory system was introduced in some sphere of production, it, just like the spinning and weaving industries, fell into the hands of the big capitalists, and the workers were deprived of the last shred of independence. Gradually the factory system invaded practically all branches of industry. As a result, the former middle classes, especially the smaller master handicraftsmen, had been increasingly driven to ruin, the former position of the workers had completely changed, and two new classes, which gradually absorbed all others, had come into being, namely:

1. The class of big capitalists who in all civilized countries already now almost exclusively own all the means of subsistence and the means (machinery, factories, workshops, etc.), needed for the production of subsistence. This is the bourgeois class or bourgeoisie.

2. The class who own absolutely nothing, who are compelled, therefre, to sell their labor to the bourgeoisie in order to obtain merely the necessary means of subsistence in exchange. Since in this sale and purchase of labour the position of the parties is unequal, the bourgeoisie being in a more favorable position, the have-nots are compelled to comply with the conditions laid down by the bourgeoisie. This dependent on the bourgeoisie class is called the class of proletarians or the proletariat.

Question 10: In what way does the proletarian differ from the slave?

Answer: The slave is sold outright, the proletarian has to sell himself by the day and by the hour. The slave is the property of a single master and hence his subsistence is guaranteed, however wretched it may be.

The proletarian is, as it were, the slave of the entire bourgeois class, and not of any single master and therefore his subsistence is not assured when no one purchases his labor, when no one needs his labor. The slave is regarded as a thing, and not a member of civil society.

The proletarian is looked upon as a person, as a member of civil society. Consequently, the slave may lead a better life than the proletarian, but the latter stands at a higher stage of development. The slave frees himself by becoming a proletarian and not by rupturing of all private property relations only the relations of slavery .The proletarian can free himself only by abolishing private property in general.

Question 11: In what way does the proletarian differ from the serf?

Answer: The serf has in his possession and use an instrument of production, a strip of land, in return for which he hands over a greater or lesser part of his income. The proletarian works with instruments of production belonging to another, who for his labor yields in return a portion of the product defined by competition.

The share of the serf is determined by his own labor, viz. by himself. The share of the proletarian is determined by competition, hence, above all, by the bourgeois. The subsistence of the serf is guaranteed, the subsistence of the proletar
not.

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Question 12: In what wa
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LETTE

Ecologically

Editor,

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are inherently contradicto

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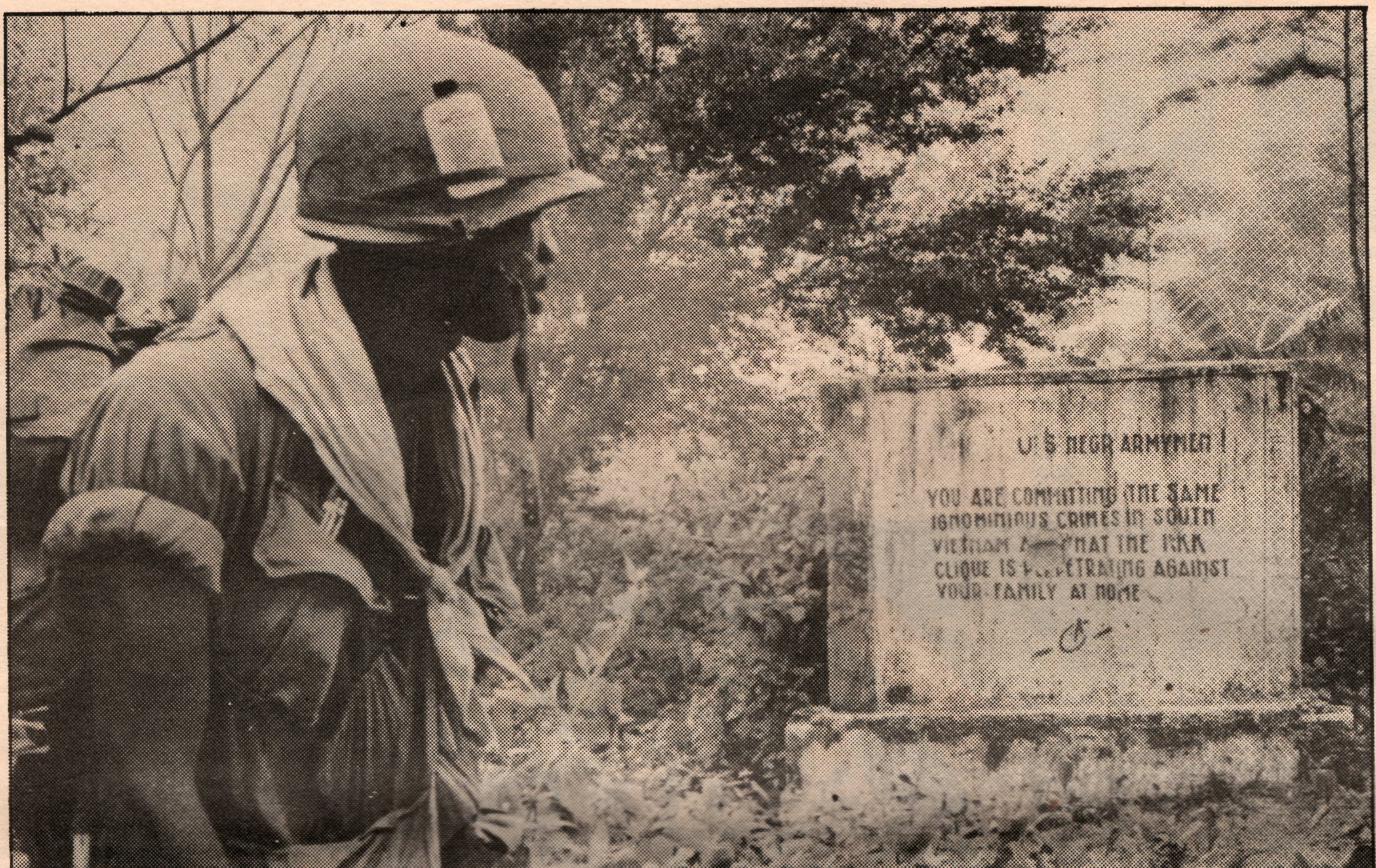
WORLD MAGAZINE

MARCH 14, 1970

Anti-draft week
new mobe
MARCH 16-22
NOW!
STOP THE DRAFT

Emblem designed by Mark Morris/New Mobilizer

Photo: World Magazine


U S NEGR ARMYMEN !
YOU ARE COMMITTING THE SAME
IGNOMINIOUS CRIMES IN SOUTH
VIETNAM THAT THE KKK
CLIQUE IS PERPETRATING AGAINST
YOUR FAMILY AT HOME

GI in Vietnam reads the writing on the wall.

Militant/LNS

MDM

By STEPHANIE ALLAN

OCEANSIDE, Calif.

The distance between Camp Pendleton and a rundown old house in Vista, Calif., is a lot more than its 20 miles. It represents the distance between a radical, black-white movement to organize enlisted men, and the military structure that seeks to brutalize and destroy the young, predominantly white, workingclass kids caught in the "green machine," the U.S. Marine Corps.

The organizing project, Movement for a Democratic Military (MDM), is headquartered in a small town outside of

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World Magazine

We won't go

By MARC BEALLOR

Organizational Secretary, New York Young Workers Liberation League

Millions of youth have raised the cry "Hell no, we won't go" in their refusal to fight the rich man's war against a small, non-white nation, a victim of a century and a half of colonial oppression and exploitation.

They are inspired by such heroes as Ronald Lockman and the Fort Hood Three (two of whom, Dennis Mora and James Johnson, are now Central Committee members of the YWLL). The thousands of young men in the prisons and stockades across the country, the tens of thousands of draft resisters, including those who have fled the country to Canada and Sweden — all these have made a great contribution toward ending U.S. imperialist aggression in Vietnam.

The past five years have been years of draft-card burnings, draft card turn-ins, sit-ins and demonstrations at draft boards and induction centers, induction refusals, ransacking of draft boards, the burning of draft files and many other forms of resistance.

Black youth were among the first to recognize the character of the Vietnam war. Julian Bond had to fight for his elected seat in the Georgia House of Representatives because he urged young black men not to fight in a war against a colored people struggling for their freedom, just as the black people are struggling for their freedom here at home. Stokely Carmichael popularized the slogan "Hell No, We Won't Go." For masses of black youth the idea swiftly took hold that there was something contradictory in putting their lives on the line, being killed out of proportion to their population, while being treated like dogs at home. At demonstrations, the placard "No Vietcong Ever Called Me Nigger" became a common sight. Thousands of black people came to the realization that this struggle was one with the Vietnamese people's fight for liberation.

Young women have also been active in the fight against the draft. In May 1967, hundreds of women picketed and sat down in the street at the Whitehall Induction Center in New York in a protest against the draft. More recently, women raided the Selective Service offices in Manhattan, destroying the files of 1-A men who live mainly in Harlem and East Harlem. In another incident, a group called Women Against Daddy Warbucks raided draft offices and cut up draft records in streams of confetti on Fifth Ave.

Young workers, especially working-class youth in the high schools, have also seen the glaring class bias of the draft system — that it's the sons of workers who are put on the front lines. And they have fought back against this, demanding an end to the war and reform of the draft system.

In Puerto Rico, one of the world's few remaining **outright** colonies, where the people do not have the right to vote for U.S. President and are not allowed even a vote in Congress, young men are drafted and killed in Vietnam for the very system that has kept their country in a state of oppression and exploitation for decades. A mass movement exists in Puerto Rico in which thousands of young men have refused to go to Vietnam and have stood trial for their beliefs.

Not only is the draft a means by which U.S. imperialism recruits its cannon fodder to carry out its policies of foreign domination and conquest, but it is a system that fully reflects the class and racial discrimination of U.S. capitalism. The draft hits hardest at black, Chicano, Puerto Rican and Indian youth, at the sons of working men and women who don't have the "luxury" of a college education to get them a 2-S deferment.

●

The main motivation for the anti-draft movement has been the Vietnam War, but inequities in the draft have also angered the youth. Mass demands have developed to end these inequities, either through reform of the system, or, mainly, through abolition of the draft.

As a result of the tremendous, massive anti-draft, anti-war movement, the ruling class had to start talking about "reforming" the Selective Service system, making it more equitable. Thus, Nixon finally got his lottery passed by Congress and "reformed" the draft system.

I remember lying in bed that night, listening to the numbers being read off. Finally they got to April 22nd, No. 316. I felt good... until the next morning when I read in the papers that in New York City they were going to draft 275,000 out of the 300,000 men in the draft pool this year. My number only meant I would be called later in the year.

The lottery did not eradicate the main source of the discontent — the Vietnam War. The so-called reforms in the draft really didn't cool things off as President Nixon thought they would, and the Anti-Draft week next week will prove it!

The massive anti-war movement has found its way into the Armed Forces, creating perhaps the greatest crisis in GI morale ever faced by the military. Thousands of GIs are in the stockades, anti-war GI groups and coffeehouses have sprung up on many military bases in the U.S. and abroad. Because of this, the Pentagon is up-tight, worrying about the day when the whole Army might refuse to budge. If the ruling class cannot rely on its Armed Forces to suppress liberation and anti-imperialist movements around the world and peoples' movements in the United States, then it has to make some drastic changes. That's why Nixon and others in the government are talking about setting up a volunteer, paid, professional Army.

We have to fight for abolition of the draft, and also for a vast reduction in the size of the Armed Forces and for a return to the U.S. of all troops stationed abroad.

We have to fight for a huge reduction in military expenditures and for the use of that money for the peoples' needs.

We have to fight for a ban on all chemical and biological weapons, including tear gas; to do away with all anti-riot weapons and anti-personnel weapons.

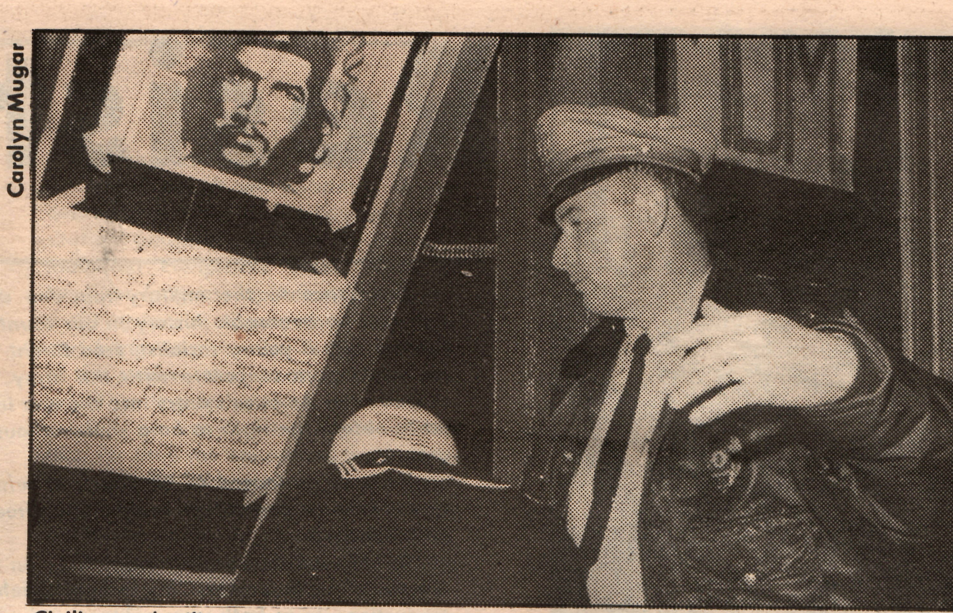
We have to fight to democratize the Armed Forces — for an end to racial discrimination and brutality against black GIs, for an end to discrimination in officer training and promotions.

Most important is the fight to end U.S. domination of peoples around the world. There are troops in Asia, Africa, Latin America and Europe. They are there for one purpose — to defend U.S. corporate interests and their profits. Those troops must be withdrawn!

We must fight for an end to the use of the armed forces against our own citizens, particularly against the black communities. There is an increasing trend towards armed repression. It is aimed at the whole progressive movement, especially the labor movement. An important part of the fight to end that repression is the fight to curb the means by which that repression is carried out — the armed forces and the draft are such instruments.

The fight to end the draft has been and continues to be an heroic chapter in the struggles of youth to end the war, for peace, freedom, and liberation.

GI rights peace dignity freedom


Carolyn Mugar

Civilian and military police (Shore Patrol) bust into MDM headquarters in San Diego on February 8. Note American flag on back of SD helmet.

Oceanside which adjoins the Marine base.

Camp Pendleton sprawls over some of the most valuable coastal real estate in California. Rumor has it that powerful Los Angeles speculators are pressuring the Nixon administration to close down and sell the World War II base. Oceanside is economically dependent upon the camp, which is the largest single employer in the area.

Talk of closing down only makes the Pendleton brass more nervous than it already is. They face growing dissent and rebellion among the base's 40,000 men. Most of the enlisted men there are going through basic training for Vietnam duty. There is sharp racial tension and now an anti-war, anti-military, anti-racist GI movement.

MDM represents the merging of two organizations — "Duck Power," which was based in San Diego at the huge Naval installation there, and the "Green Machine," which existed at Camp Pendleton.

MDM's statement of principles indicates why the brass fears it:

> **"Believing that ending the suppression of the American serviceman is an important part of a larger struggle for basic human rights, the Movement for a Democratic Military pledges support for the self-determination of all peoples.**
>
> **"We are dedicated to using every means at our disposal to bring about a prompt end to the war in Vietnam, the exploitation of our brothers and sisters abroad, and the repression — both physical and economic — of those in our own land.**
>
> **"We feel that by remaining silent, the serviceman has contributed to the denial of this deep-founded right of himself and of people everywhere to live free from intimidation and oppression. We have been silent for a long time. We will be silent no longer."**

When asked why he joined MDM, a 19-year-old active duty Marine said: "I believed it was the right thing to do. I knew the system was wrong and I had to change it."

●

Organizing began in May 1969 when two of the current civilian members of MDM, Kent Hudson and Pat Sumi, came down with two other people who have since left. Hudson said that the four of them originally opened a coffeehouse and approached GIs on a strictly "cultural" level, providing them with a place that wasn't out to cheat them, where they could listen to music and have the atmosphere of the youth culture that is identified with the "hip scene." The coffeehouse was forced to close, however, when Oceanside authorities threatened the landlord with obscure city code violations if he didn't revoke the lease.

"We underestimated the level of consciousness," Hudson said.

The civilian organizers also fell for the image of the Marine as the "biggest, baddest, gung-ho" serviceman. And they passed out their first leaflets convinced they would be smashed. Both images proved to be untrue and the civilians found a ready response to their leaflets and rap sessions with GIs about the military and the war. They found "incredible resistance" and a "tremendous black movement" among the Pendleton Marines.

But fighting back at Camp Pendleton (known in the area simply as Campen) often took the form of riots, arson and sabotage. The problem was to develop the initial resistance to the Marine Corps into a rank-and-file political movement. The biggest obstacle to building such a movement was the racist policy the USMC taught and practiced, both against black GIs and the Vietnamese.

The Marines have been what another civilian organizer, Tom Hurwitz, called the "shock troops of imperialism," and have been used to establish U.S. imperialism's beachheads in the colonial world and among the newly-emerging nations.

The Corps was not integrated until the mid-50s, but GIs at "Campen" say the brig (Marine jail) and other areas of base life are still segregated. A black Marine, recently discharged and now an MDM organizer, says most of the racism starts with the lifers — those men, white and black, making a career of the Corps and therefore committed to defending its policies. Black GIs receive heavier sentences from courts martial, he said, and many are convicted on false charges. The lifers have deliberately stirred up racial tensions; GI organizers blame them for precipitating many riots.

The day after a recent riot at Campen — which MDM charges was instigated by the base command and blamed on MDM, the Black Panther Party and other radicals — confederate flags were flown from barracks and confederate flag decals were seen on the helmets of many white Marines.

During the time I was at Pendleton, I talked to a drunk, white Marine who explained how black power was to be handled. Raising a clenched fist, he said, "black power," then he put his other hand over it, "white control."

Organizer Pat Sumi said that "racism and fear are the biggest blocks to organizing."

In San Diego, the MDM office was raided by the Shore Patrol and city police. The doors were broken down on the pretext of arresting a sailor (whose name the Patrol never divulged) who was supposedly on an unauthorized absence. Eight men were ultimately arrested — all active-duty GI organizers — and held 24 hours, part of the time outside in the cold rain. Eventually, all charges were dropped.

Many times, when a Marine accepts a leaflet or the GI paper, **Attitude Check,** which is put out at the base, he is stopped and interrogated by the Shore Patrol. On base the known active-duty GI organizers are subject to special harassment. One MDM activist, a 19-year-old Mexican national, said, "They are always waiting for you to do something wrong." There is "individual harassment," he said. His company commander had a heart-to-heart talk with him and said he wouldn't "make rank" if he continued his activities. "I didn't expect this from you," the officer said.

The activist said the officer talked to him "like I was a fool because I was a Mexican. But I'm still here. Before you start organizing, you better know your articles."

The articles are the "rights" an enlisted man is supposed to have under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Attorney Terence Hallinan, who defended some of the Presidio 27 against mutiny charges, says that the military code is "adopted directly from the imperial army of England who adopted it from the Roman armies of Caesar and other conquerors.

"It is a system of discipline and not of justice."

In addition to employing petty harassment, such as special duties, the Corps uses the ultimate weapon of shipment to Vietnam.

One MDM organizer who is facing Vietnam says he "would not object to going to Nam if I was in condition (he has a shattered kneecap) so I could serve the people — if I went I'd know who the real enemy was," he said, "and he wouldn't have slanted eyes."

Vietnam opens guys' eyes to what goes on in this country, said another Marine. "It's just making the pigs in this country richer," he said. He might have added that black GIs suffer heavier casualties in Vietnam since they are a larger percentage of the combat troops. They even face more open racism than in the States; they report that the confederate flag is a common sight in Vietnam.

The policy of the National Liberation Front in making a special appeal to black GIs has had a powerful effect on those men. One black MDM organizer told me that when he was in Vietnam he and a white Marine were shot in an ambush. He didn't know what happened to the white GI, but he was able to crawl away though seriously wounded.

"They let me get away because I am black," he said. He found out later that the other Marine had been killed.

He said that he and other GIs were often invited to tea by Vietnamese civilians and called "soul brothers." "They asked us why we were fighting there," he said.

When he came back he joined the MDM. "Anything that's against the military is okay with me," he said.

The problems of organizing blacks and whites together held up the project for a long time. Blacks would refuse to work with whites and white Marines would leave meetings if they saw any black people there. One of the ways MDM has tried to cope with this problem is through a class on Vietnam and racism. The project tries to educate GIs on the imperialist-racist nature of the war. Through their paper, **Attitude Check,** MDM has found that "guys are hungering for an explanation" of imperialism.

Strangely enough, MDM has made some headway with white Marines through its principled defense of and support for the Black Panther Party. At a December Moratorium demonstration, at which 1,000 servicemen turned out despite restrictions, threats and pressure from the brass, over $70 was collected from GIs and given to the Panthers' Breakfast for Children program.

The Panthers' method of political education is used by the project organizers. "Guys will listen and take seriously a revolutionary line," Hudson says. "It is the only thing that makes sense to a lot of white guys."

When one organizer's CO warned him that the communists were "going to take over the world," and suggested that he would be sorry then, the MDMer replied, "Hell no, I won't be sorry — I'm going to be one of the leaders."

Demands of the Movement for Democratic Military

1. **We demand the right to collective bargaining.**
2. **Extend all human and constitutional rights to military men and women.**
3. **Stop all military censorship and intimidation — we demand the right to individual conscience — moral, political or religious. We demand the right to refuse politically objectionable duty such as riot control and Vietnam duty. We demand that MPs be kept out of our civilian lives.**
4. **Abolish all mental and physical cruelty in military brigs, correctional custodies and basic training.**
5. **We demand the abolition of the present court martial system: trial by jury and court of one's peers by rank. No more physical custody prior to legal hearings and non-judicial punishment. All cases subject to review by an elected civilian review board.**
6. **We demand wages equal to the federal minimum wage for civilians.**
7. **We demand the abolition of the class structure of the military.**
8. **End all racism everywhere and bring to trial all officers and senior enlisted men who foment and exploit race tensions.**
9. **Free all political prisoners including Eldridge Cleaver, Huey Newton, the Conspiracy 8 and our brother war resisters at home and abroad.**
10. **Stop the glorification of war now prevalent in all branches of the military.**
11. **Abolish the draft and all involuntary enlistment.**
12. **Pull out of Vietnam now.**

Fred Briehl in concentration camp at Fort Douglas, Utah, In 1920.

Resistance – 1918

Resistance to the military machine during an imperialist war has an honorable history in our country. More than half a century ago a young socialist, Fred Briehl, was court martialed for refusing to cooperate with the army. Briehl had been inducted after America's entry into the war in 1917, and attempted to obtain the right to be a conscientious objector on political grounds.

He was sentenced to 30 years, of which 26 months were served when a general amnesty set him free 18 months after the end of the war.

Briehl was born in Paterson, N.J., on December 15, 1892, the son of a silk worker. "My father," Briehl wrote us for this introduction, "was both very militant and union minded. Because of his militancy he was blacklisted, which in turn necessitated our family's frequent moves from place to place. . . . It was always necessary for me to supplement the income of my family, even while going to school."

Briehl became an active member of the Socialist Party and, in 1916, ran for state senate on the Socialist Party ticket. When the Russian revolution broke out, Briehl became an ardent supporter of the first socialist state, and actively participated in raising funds for it.

Briehl was drafted shortly thereafter and on his arrival at Camp Upton, he and a few others refused to obey military orders. At that time, only objection on religious grounds was recognized. Briehl made his appeal on political grounds; excerpts from his plea to the court are printed below.

Gentlemen:

I do not know whether or not what I may say here will alter the case to any degree. Nevertheless, as I feel that any sentence imposed upon me would be unjust, and as this is such a grave matter in my life, I want to make my position as clear as possible with my limited ability so that you and I can know to our entire satisfaction the facts for which I am being tried.

Both my parents came from Germany. My father, because he would not be a soldier; my mother, because she believed opportunities for a servant girl to be better in this country. Time has proven, however, that matters are otherwise, for now the son is in the very circumstances the father came here to avoid, while the history of our family's struggles and poverty gives the lie to my mother's early idea. Their condition in Germany was one of relentless toil against poverty, so they have no reason to sympathize with the German government. Their life in this country has been nothing but the continuation of their plight in Europe.

When I was still a child, my father was sent to prison for a year for taking part in a strike to secure a little more of the bread of life for his family and those of his fellow workers. My mother was stranded with four small children. Debt overtook us, in spite of the almost superhuman efforts of my mother to keep the wolf from the door by taking in washing and going out scrubbing. The hardship of it was too great, so she succumbed and was taken to a hospital for several months. I remember my older brother, forced by these circumstances, going out with a basket begging for food.

No government ever came to our aid in days of stress; no government ever cared whether we lived or starved. We have weathered the storm, but for this I have no government to thank, but a noble mother. Now this government calls upon this mother to offer her sons for our so-called "protection." Is it consistent? Is it fair? It is possible?

You will excuse me, I hope, for imposing my family history upon you for I do so only because it is the most familiar case of thousands of similar cases. Intuitively I felt that something was wrong somewhere. Wherever I looked the toilers had the least of the world's fruits, while the less productive members of society lived lives of ease and luxury. Gradually I came to understand. The workers are born in poverty and propertyless. Before they can secure the means with which to live they must sell themselves for wages to the propertied class who dictate the terms. Without a job a worker faces starvation, so when a worker is forced to ask or even beg for a job from the possessing class, he is actually asking for the privilege to live. He is not the master of his own job or life. He has no right to work, but a privilege which can be given or withheld by his economic masters. This is slavery.

●

Militarism and war have their roots buried in certain very definite economic causes, starting with the exploitation of labor and culminating in commercial rivalry. The nations find it difficult to sell all their products in their own country because the workers do not receive a sufficient wage to buy back what they produce, so the nations must seek foreign outlets for their surplus products. It is for markets that the nations come in conflict. This is why colonies and strategic points on land and sea are sought. The intrigues of powerful financiers play their part, as do the machinations of the armament rings of all sides. These are the reasons for Germany's great army, England's colossal navy, and the stupendous, ever-increasing war expenditures of the United States.

One side links itself with brutal Turkey and claims it is fighting for "Kultur." The other sides allied themselves with the despotic Czar and barbaric Japan at the same time, claiming the war to be one for freedom and democracy. "Germany is endeavoring to dominate the world" is the cry, "and she must be crushed." At the time Napoleon vainly attempted to rule the world, were not the sympathies of the United States with France as against England and Prussia? Are we not now allied with a nation which dominates one fifth of the earth? Is not every nation fighting with a former enemy against a former friend? The next war is very likely to find present friendly nations arraigned against each other with their present enemies as allies. Does this not belie the moral issue? Moral issues are not fought by international wars of bloodshed.

Stories of atrocities are vociferously spread, as in every war, to arouse hatred against the enemy. In this belligerent country I hear only of the atrocities committed by Germany, whereas the German people hear only of the atrocities perpetrated by their enemies. Crimes are no doubt committed, but the crime of crimes is the war itself. Whatever any of the nations do is not done because of any sincere desire for moral righteousness, but for unscrupulous, sinister interests, with expediency as their God.

The peoples of the different nations feel no natural animosity for each other. They live far enough apart and are perfect strangers to each other... But when the avaricious ulterior motives of their rulers, be they monarchs, oligarchies or plutocrats, clash, then these unrecognized and downtrodden masses are aroused through a controlled, corrupt and prostitute press, called upon and forced to meet each other in a death struggle on the horrifying battlefield, brother killing brother, all in the name of God, Country, Democracy, Freedom, Home and Righteousness.

Billions of dollars and millions of lives are ruthlessly thrown into the dreadful orgy of blood and destruction until one side or both sides are exhausted. Then what? The world in misery and mourning, millions of dead and wounded, mothers, fathers, wives, sisters, and brothers broken hearted, the people and future generations burdened with a stupendous debt. A peace? No! Only a truce for the foundation of future wars has been made.

●

I understand that I am being tried on two charges: first, refusing to wear a uniform; second, refusing to perform military duty. These charges are only incidental to the issue of my convictions and the freedom of my conscience. It was all forced upon me under conditions entirely beyond my control. With these circumstances, I could not do otherwise.

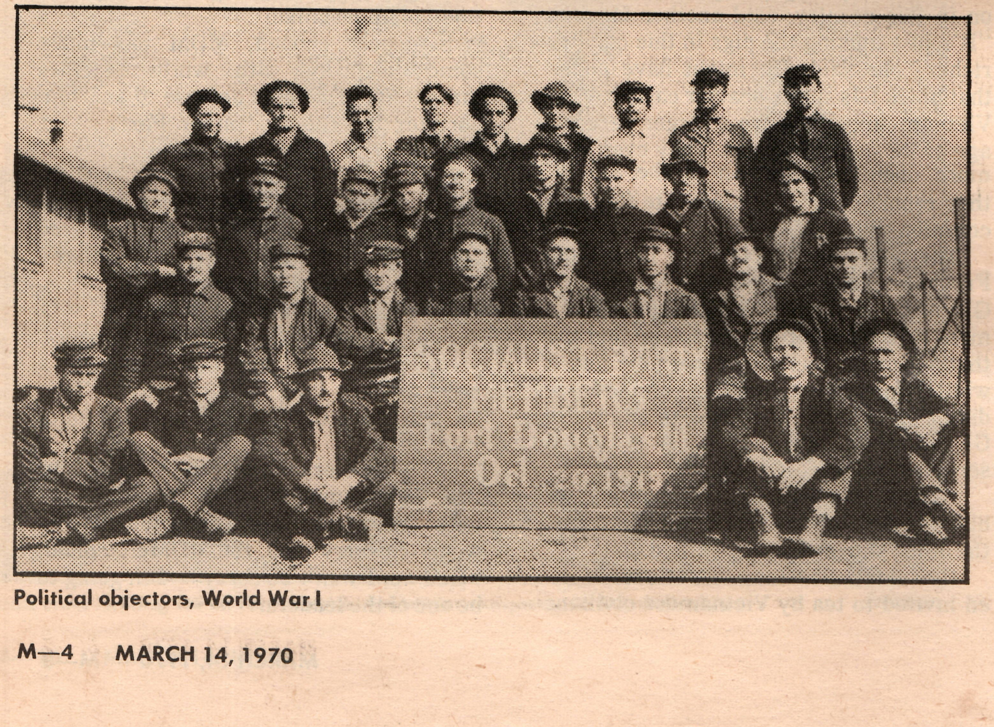
I cannot see how I can consistently or conscientiously take part in this holocaust other than to hasten its end by my present stand.

To think that millions of misguided workers, brothers of toil, can be pitted against each other in a bloody death struggle seems utterly impossible, yet it is so. Their suffering; the injustice done upon the peoples in peace time as well as in war time is an injustice to every living soul. While there is one slave I am not free.

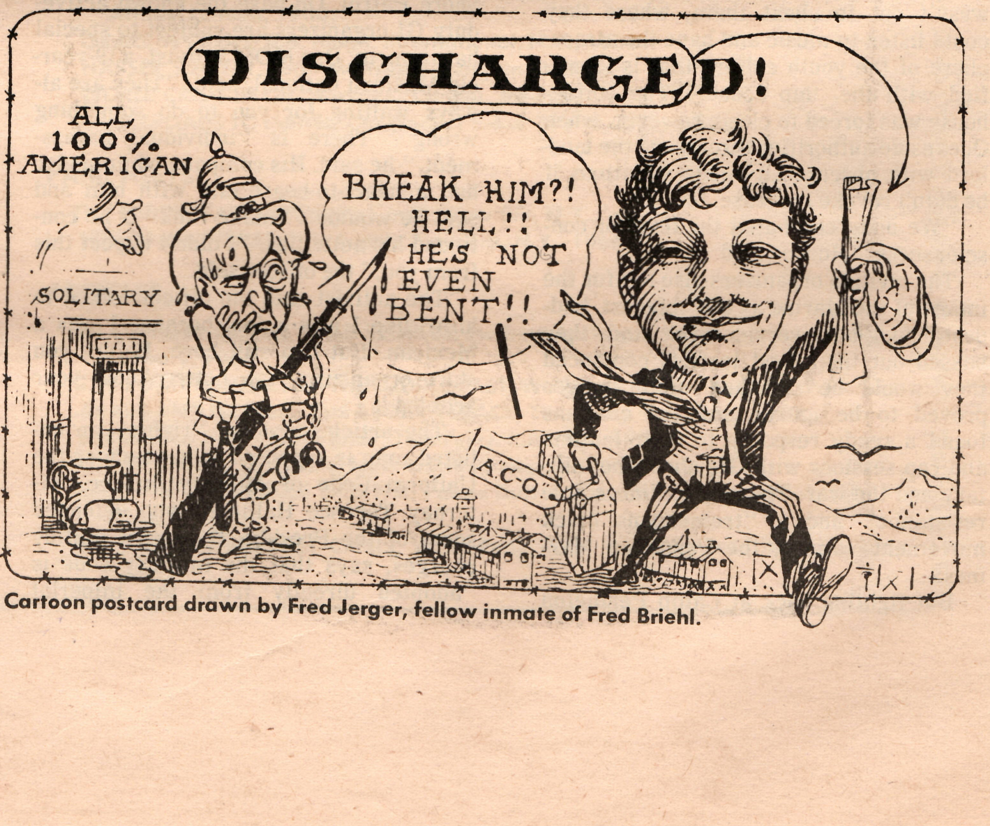
First, I am a humanitarian, and as such I try to live a moral life. Second, I see and feel the injustices in this world and I try by all lawful means to remedy them. My world work is to bring mankind to a higher, nobler understanding of the Brotherhood of Man. Well do I realize the suffering of a prison term during the best years of my life; to be parted from my sweetheart, my dear old heart-broken mother, who I may never see again, my sister, brothers and friends, but I cannot do differently for the pangs of my conscience would be insufferable.

One hundred years from now the world will little know that I ever lived, and little does it matter, but much does it matter at the final hour of my mundane existence when I can be thankful and happy that I did not allow the great moral wrong of killing or aiding to kill my fellowman blot the pages of my life.

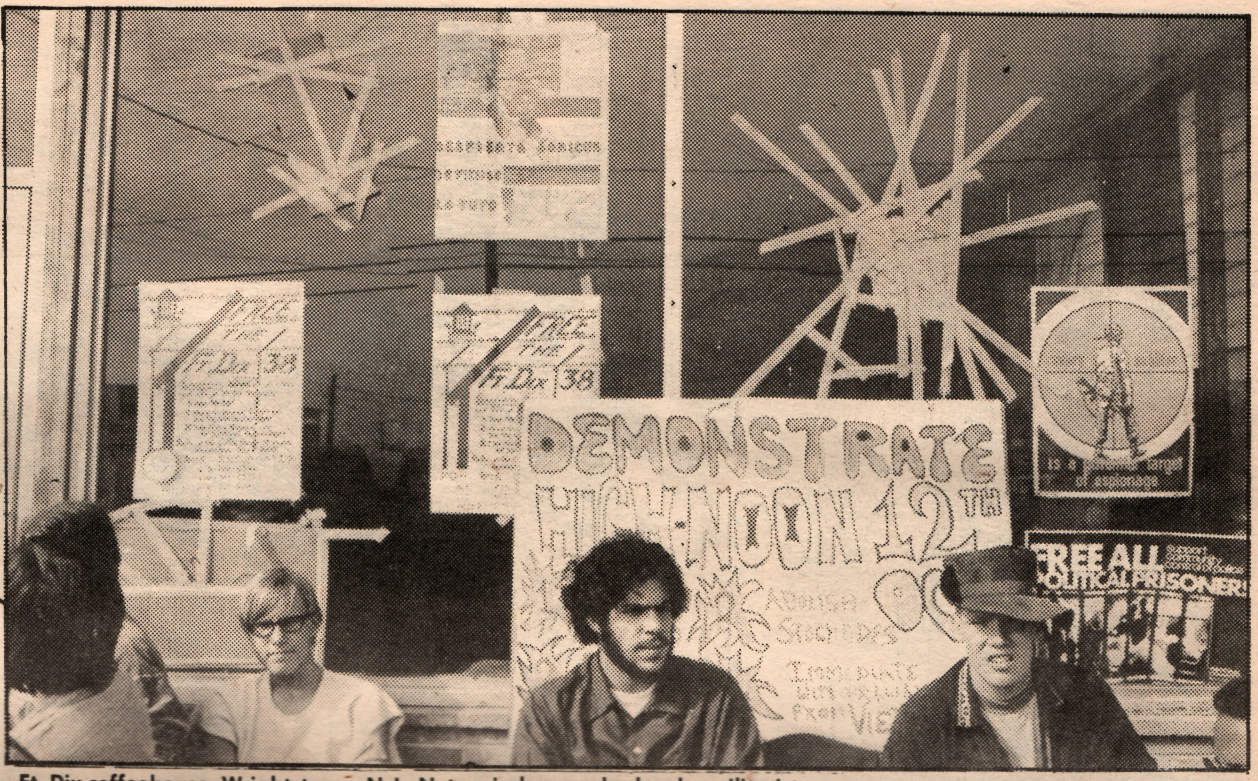
Fred Briehl



Political objectors, World War I


DISCHARGED!
ALL 100% AMERICAN
SOLITARY
BREAK HIM?! HELL!! HE'S NOT EVEN BENT!!
A.C.O.

Cartoon postcard drawn by Fred Jerger, fellow inmate of Fred Briehl.



Ft. Dix coffeehouse, Wrightstown, N.J. Note windows — broken by militarists. World Magazine

Coffee houses for ideas

HELL
NO
WE WONT
GO!

By SUE DEVLIN

"I have been rehabilitated and I'm ready to serve my country again," said former Army captain Howard Levy. But Levy, who had been sentenced to three years in prison (he served 26 months) for refusing to give medical training to Vietnam-bound Green Berets, was not talking about military rehabilitation. He meant his enlistment in the GI coffeehouse movement.

In a telephone interview in New York, Levy said that "the organizing being done in the coffeehouses is very substantial and their political direction is most compatible with my political feelings and efforts."

Despite bombings, arrests, grand jury indictments, threats, harassment and punitive transfers for GIs who frequent them, eight coffeehouses at bases across the country are feeding, entertaining and educating thousands of GIs every week.

"There has been a much more concerted effort to close down the coffeehouses in recent months," said Wendy Forbush of the U.S. Servicemen's Fund (USSF), a tax-exempt corporation which contributes educational materials such as newspapers and films to the coffeehouses.

The first coffeehouse, the UFO at Fort Jackson, S.C., was set up in Dec. 1967, to provide servicemen with an "alternative to life in the barracks," said Levy, also a member of the Servicemen's Fund. "They had light shows and rock music. It was basically a cultural milieu. But even back then it served an anti-war, educational function. Just the cultural part gave the GIs a chance to get together and find others who opposed the war and military. It provided a source of strength for GI organizing."

"With the increase in the number of GI coffeehouses and their increasing emphasis on political education, the army has escalated its counter-offensive. On Feb. 14, an army training hand grenade blew out the wooden front panels of the Fort Dix coffeehouse, injuring three people, one seriously. (Earlier vandalism shattered all the windows). Those attempting to chase the bombers were met with rifle fire. The coffeehouse was reopened the next day with a promise that it would remain open until the war ends.

Last December the military made

Continued on page 8

Peace can be won

By ARNOLD JOHNSON

Secretary, National Peace Commission of the Communist Party, USA.

The Anti-Draft movement in its full scope is a most important sector of the massive upsurge against the U.S. criminal aggression in Vietnam. It involves millions of Americans of diverse beliefs and many affiliations. It includes the black Americans who are victims of racist discrimination by the draft process and in the army, and the Puerto Rican and Chicano who are also forced into the army of their oppressor. The working class family comes into the movement as the draft boards conscript the sons of workers and exempt the sons of the rich. The so-called draft lottery is a fraud, designed to make it easier for the military to concentrate on 19-year-olds, whom they regard as the most desirable recruits. The whole system of the draft is corrupt and unjust because the purpose of the army in this war is criminal aggression.

The struggle against the draft joins the individual pacifist and the militant anti-imperialist, the opponents of this war, because of its immoral or brutal genocidal character, and those who oppose the capitalist system which breeds imperialism and enslavement of people. The movement involves those beyond and those within the draft age, the civilian and those in direct confrontation with the military.

Most directly involved are those who are approaching draft age, those who are drafted but refuse induction, those who are in the military service but refuse to go to Vietnam, who now refuse to commit atrocities and are joining the "Let's go home" movement and anti-war protests within the armed forces. Thousands are in prisons and stockades. Tens of thousands are in temporary exile in Canada, Sweden and other countries. Many others are involved.

This all encompassing character of the anti-draft movement must be appreciated if we are to understand the many forms and tactics used in the resistance, and the full potential of the movement. This calls for the use of diverse tactics to create a meaningful massive unity. That is part of the reasoning bringing together again the all inclusive forces of the New Mobilization Committee and the broader forces of the

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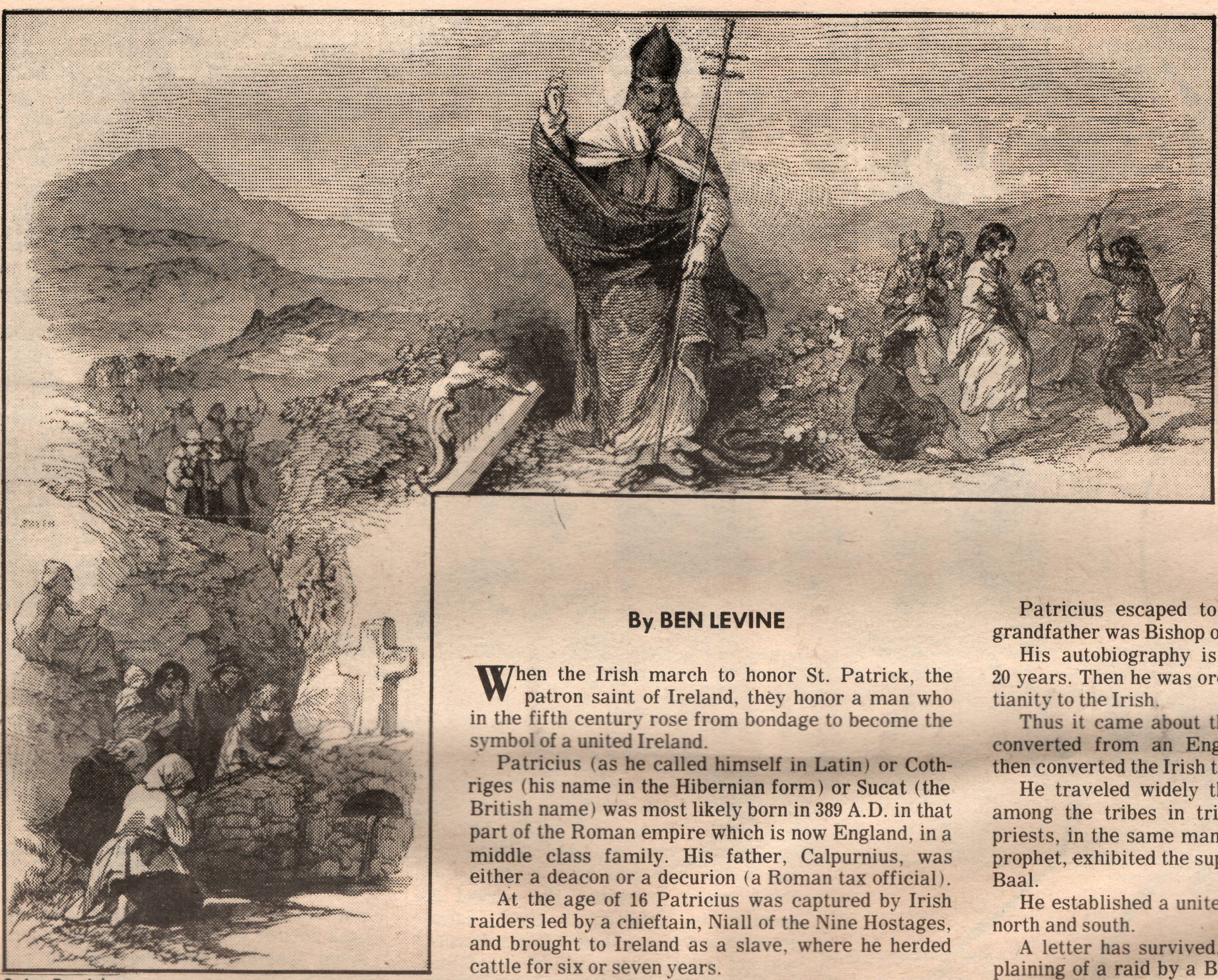


Saint Patrick

St. Patrick's Day:

15 centu

Much history is vested in th country, as as Sean O'Casey throughout the world. On this St struggles of the Irish working pe here and abroad. The American l the heroic names of many Irish William Z. Foster, leader of the twice Communist candidate for pr Flynn, beloved by millions of wo and later, as a foremost figure Party.

By BEN LEVINE

When the Irish march to honor St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, they honor a man who in the fifth century rose from bondage to become the symbol of a united Ireland.

Patricius (as he called himself in Latin) or Cothriges (his name in the Hibernian form) or Sucat (the British name) was most likely born in 389 A.D. in that part of the Roman empire which is now England, in a middle class family. His father, Calpurnius, was either a deacon or a decurion (a Roman tax official).

At the age of 16 Patricius was captured by Irish raiders led by a chieftain, Niall of the Nine Hostages, and brought to Ireland as a slave, where he herded cattle for six or seven years.

Patricius escaped to Gaul (France), where his grandfather was Bishop of Tours.

His autobiography is silent concerning the next 20 years. Then he was ordained bishop to bring Christianity to the Irish.

Thus it came about that this man, whom fortune converted from an Englishman into an Irishman, then converted the Irish to Christianity.

He traveled widely through the island, engaging among the tribes in trials of skill with the Druid priests, in the same manner that Elijah, the Biblical prophet, exhibited the superior power of Jehovah over Baal.

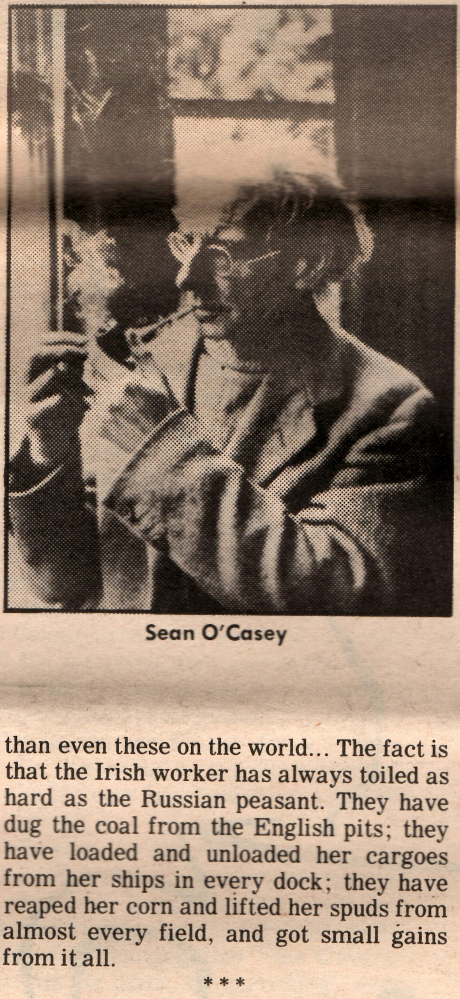
He established a united church organization in the north and south.

A letter has survived, written by Patricius, complaining of a raid by a British king, called Coroticus, calling for non-pay Through the centu put that mandate in

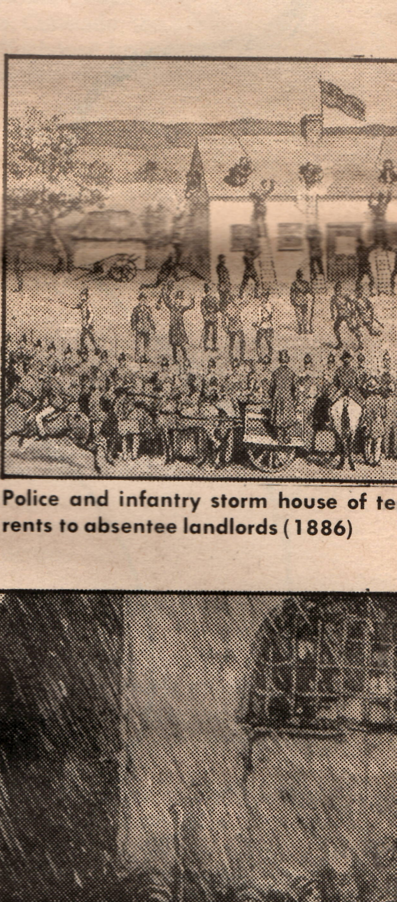
And so when th man who fled from what was the enlig he loved. They can of Frederick Dougl

And if their ent into the path of sc rick's Confession, where the Saint, be his schooling when tence appropriate f

"It is written: shall quickly learn



Sean O'Casey



Police and infantry storm house of te rents to absentee landlords (1886)

"We knocked at every nation's door . . ."

Sean O'Casey, the great Irish playwright, wrote an essay in 1944, titled "There go the Irish," from which we print excerpts.

By SEAN O'CASEY

The Irish are even a more scattered race than the Jews. They've gone to every land, sailed every sea, scanned every river, and climbed every mountain range. The lands of the Americas got to know them well soon after Columbus had come back from Hispaniola; indeed there is a legend in Galway and Chicago that an Irish pilot on the bridge of the Santa Maria showed Columbus the way to go. They dined on turkey and wild pigeon in the wigwams of Choctaw, Natchez, Muskogee, Chickasaw, and Cherokee. Near two hundred years ago, John Pope, an officer in the United States Army, sailing up the Mississippi to find out all he could about the river, writes in his diary: 'Just under Chickasaw Bluff — coloured red, blue, brown, grey, purple, yellow, and black — within six feet of the Shore, a firstrate Man of War might ride in Safety, unassailed by Winds. From the lower End of the Bluff, the river suddenly opens to the width of six Miles. Upon Examination, I find our crew consist of one Irishman, one Person born at Sea, one Anspacher, one Kentuckean, one Virginian, and one Welchman. March the 17th: The Irishman, in Honour of St. Patrick, purloined all our Brandy, Sugar, and Eggs to make a Tub of Egg-Nog, of which he drank so copiously, that whilst at the helm, he insensibly run the Vessel into a strong Eddy, to get her out of which, employed all Hands in hard labour the Balance of the Day.'

The O'Carrolls founded Carrollton in Maryland; other Irish founded two towns in Massachusetts; the O'Sullivans built a Belfast in Maine; and many places in Virginia and Carolina owe their beginnings to Irish immigration. Professor Lecky, Conservative Member of Parliament, and a Historian, in his ***History of England*** states that 'disastrous circumstances (he jibs at saying British Governments) have driven great bodies of Irish to seek a home in America'. The same authority points out that the famous Pennsylvanian line, the best regiments in Washington's army, were almost entirely Irish, and when Cornwallis surrendered to Washington at Yorktown, seventy-five percent of the American Army were Irish; and New York owes its first parliament to an Irishman. Indeed, America was such a familiar object to the Irish, they had so close and constant connection with it — and have still — that the great continent was known to the Irish for centuries as An tOilean Ur — the New Island.

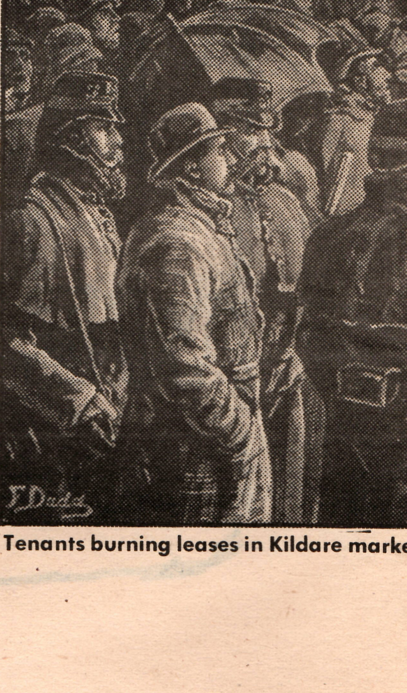
* * *

All the things in the world weren't done by the fellows in the plumed hats, with glittering decorations jostling and envying each other on their breasts. The Irish workers have left a deeper mark than even these on the world... The fact is that the Irish worker has always toiled as hard as the Russian peasant. They have dug the coal from the English pits; they have loaded and unloaded her cargoes from her ships in every dock; they have reaped her corn and lifted her spuds from almost every field, and got small gains from it all.

* * *

In the United States of America and Canada the Irish navvies, the finest in the world, practically made the railways that connect the east of America with the west. They and the Scots did it all, or as much as all that matters. . . .The seed of the Irish has fallen everywhere, on every kind of soil. Paul wrote an epistle to them that lived in Galatia; the Georgians of the Caucasus are their cousins; and the Crimea bears strong signs of the old Gael still.

We have knocked at every nation's door; looked in at every window; and sat down for a drink or two in the gardens of most of them — sometimes sword in hand that has helped the nation in whose garden they sat to either plenty or peace, or to both..."



Tenants burning leases in Kildare marke

ries' struggle for freedom

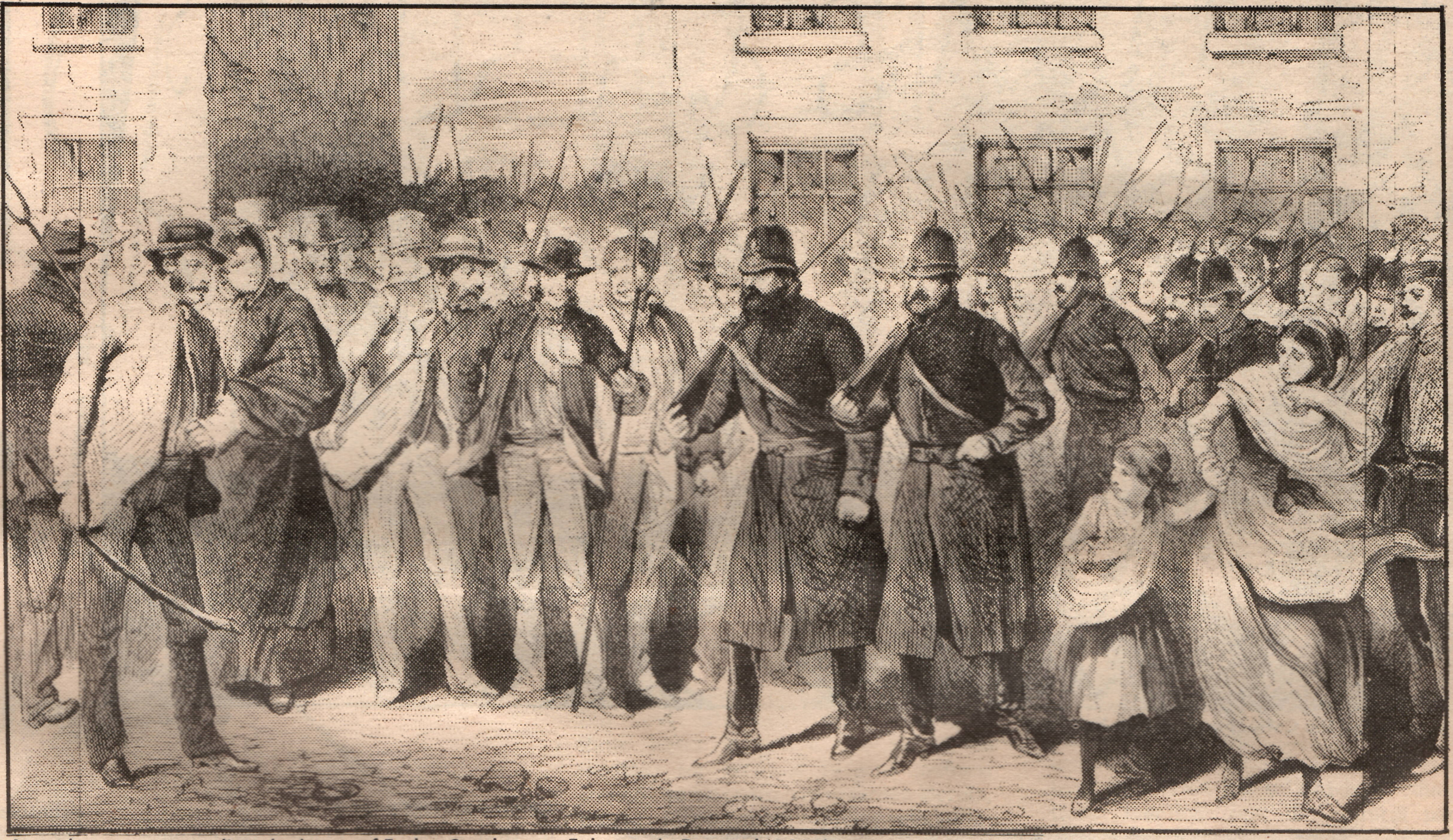
Irish people in their home ints out in these pages, Patricks' Day we honor the le in the last century, both or movement sparkles with hters, among whom were eat 1919 Steel Strike and ident; and Elizabeth Gurley ing-people as strike leader the American Communist

ent of taxes to the British tyrant. s the Irish have been trying to effect.

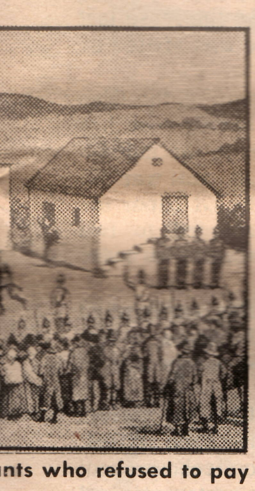
rish march they are honoring a ondage and came back to spread nment of that time to the people e a kinship in this with the story s.

siasm for St. Patrick leads them arship, they might read St. Pat- nd so come across a passage oaning the fact that he neglected e was a lad, puts down this sen- these times:

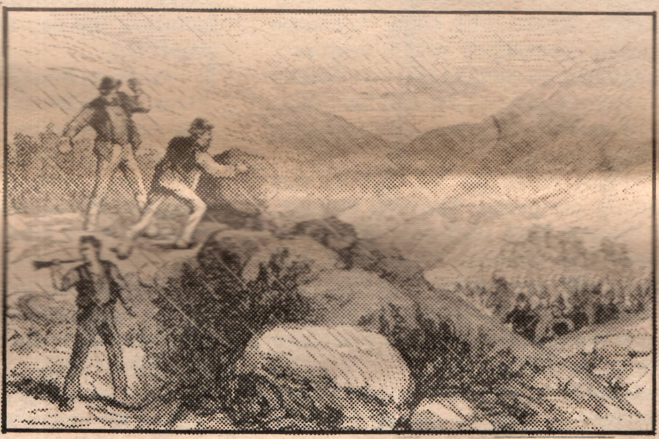
'he tongue of the stammerers speak peace."



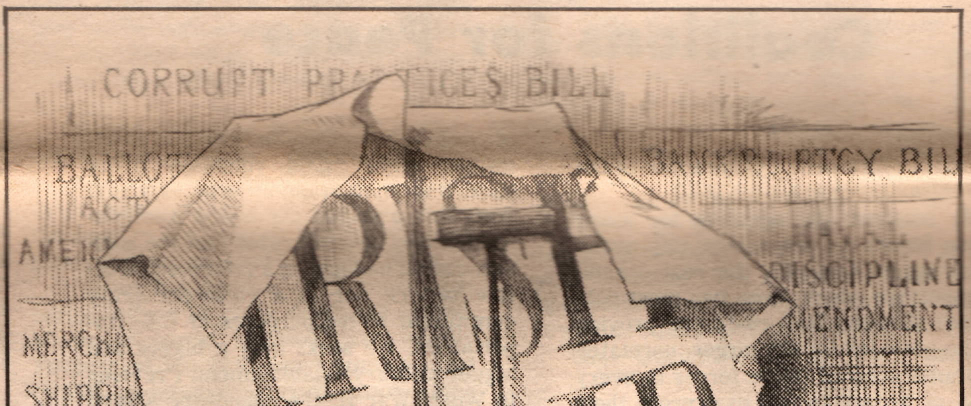
Armed peasants guarding the house of Father Stephans at Falcarragh, Donegal (1888)



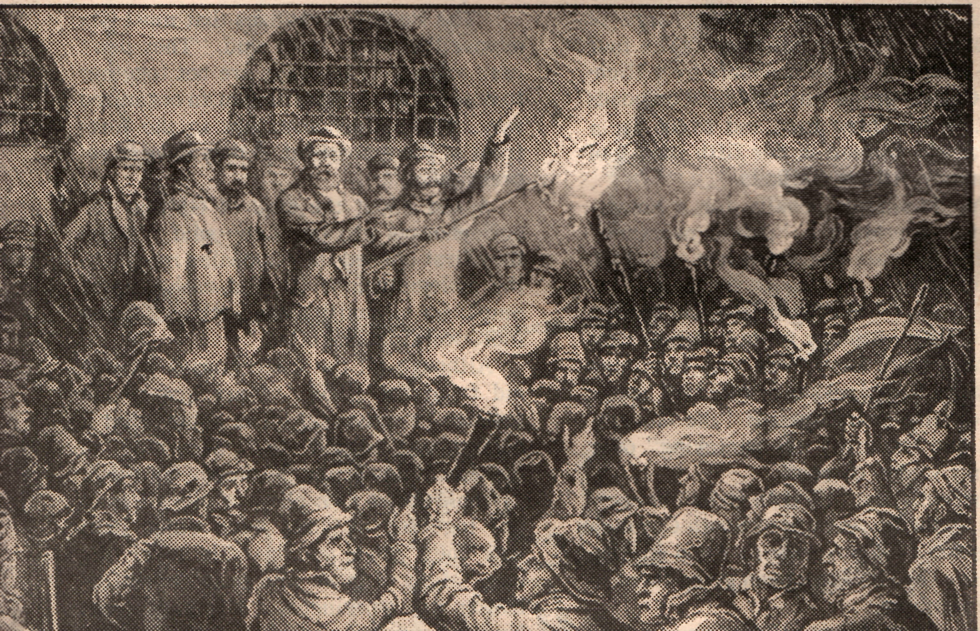
nts who refused to pay



Tenants harrass eviction party by throwing boulders (1887)

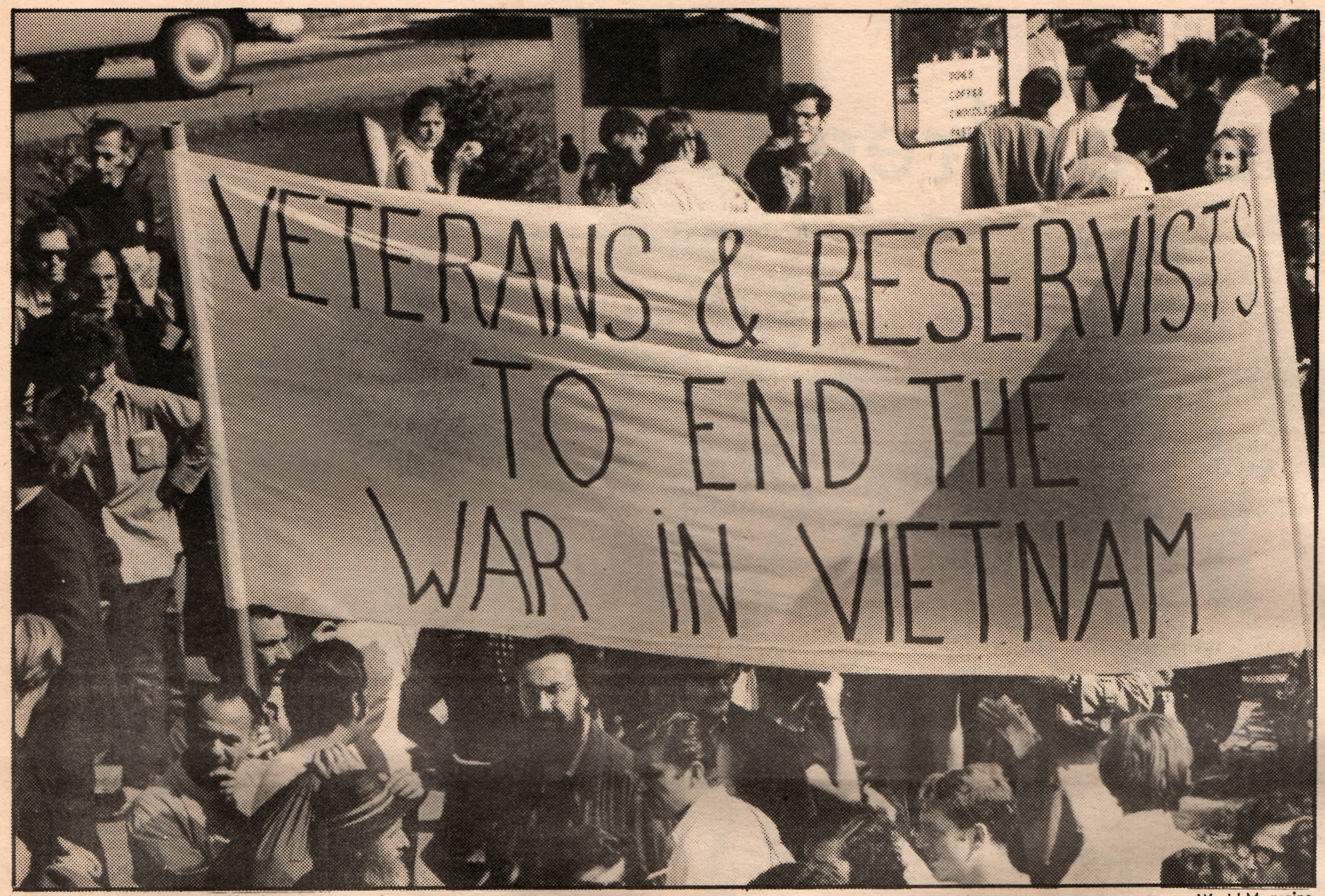

CORRUPT PRACTICES BILL
BALLOT ACT
AMER
MERCHA SHIPPIN
PARLIAM OATHS
THAMES RIVER BILL
BANKRUPTCY BIL
NAVAL DISCIPLINE AMENDMENT
RIVERS CONSERVA BILL
BILL
IRISH LAND
THE BILL-STICKER.

July 1881



place (1891)

All illustrations from New York Public Library



Rally outside Fort Dix Coffeehouse in October 1969

World Magazine

CAPTAIN HOWARD B. LEVY

Coffee and Ideas

Continued from page 5

its first attempt to place a coffeehouse off-limits to servicemen. The Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board charged the Shelter Half coffeehouse near Fort Lewis, Wash., with being "a source of dissident counseling and literature." The Army further alleged that the Shelter Half "adversly affects the welfare, morale and discipline of personnel serving in the Armed Forces."

A hearing scheduled for Jan. 22 was indefinitely postponed. Matthew Rinaldi, one of Shelter Half staff, said the Army postponed the hearing because it had "made a legal and public relations blunder." But the coffeehouse people add that there are definite signs of new efforts to close down the Shelter Half.

Since the postponement, agents posing as deserters or AWOLs asking for help have been detected at the Shelter Half, according to Rinaldi.

In January the UFO coffeehouse in Columbia, S.C., was padlocked and four of its staffers jailed on the charge of operating a "public nuisance." The four were indicted on eight counts by a Richland County grand jury and held on bonds of $7,500 for three men and $6,000 for a 20-year-old woman in her fifth month of pregnancy. All are civilians.

The maximum penalty for a conviction for operating a "public nuicance" there is 10 years imprisonment, a $10,000 fine, or both.

Following the arrests and the closing of the UFO, a large protest demonstration was held. Levy, who was convicted at nearby Fort Jackson in July 1967, spoke at the rally charging that "the Government and the army are panicking" over growing soldier dissent.

Currently the "UFO In Exile" is operating at the University of South Carolina on weekends. Servicemen's Fund spokesmen say the GIs have been going there in large numbers.

The Fort Knox Coffeehouse was charged last fall with being a "public nuisance and annoyance of all the good citizens of the Commonwealth of Kentucky." Six staff people were arrested and held on $10,000 bail each until a U.S. District Court judge issued a restraining order. On Feb. 24 two staff members were arrested and four others sought on the identical charges of maintaining a public nuisance. Immediately after the arrests, GIs staged a rally at the jail and promised to boycott businesses in the town of Muldraugh.

At the Home Front coffeehouse near Fort Carson, Colorado, the landlord of the original coffeehouse broke the lease last summer the day after he was visited by the F.B.I.

At Fort Hood, the home of the Oleo Strut coffeehouse, the harassment has been concentrated so far on the individual GI. Richard Case, an anti-war GI and a staff member of the GI paper the **Fatigue Press,** was sentenced to two years at hard labor for refusing an order to train for riot control.

Despite the accelerating harassment of the coffeehouses by the brass, a new coffeehouse opened three weeks ago at Fort Ord, Calif.

None of the legal battles the coffeehouses are engaged in have been settled. But, according to Levy, coffeehouse people see the "repression as systematic and national in scope," and they expect it to continue.

"The Pentagon realizes that most GIs oppose the war," Levy said. "They don't care as long as the guys are not together to express their opposition in an organized way. The coffeehouses are in the forefront of the movement so they have to repress them."

Asked about the kind of GI that the coffeehouses attract, Levy said, "When they first opened they appealed mostly to the college-trained GI. But with greater emphasis on politics they are attracting more workingclass GIs."

Although all the coffeehouses receive aid from the USSF, "there are no set policies or universal ideas about what a coffeehouse should do," according to Corinna Fales of the Servicemen's Fund. "People see it as a place to allow GIs to get together to meet each other in a way they would not be able to on the base. Many of those who go to the coffeehouses are workingclass GIs back from Nam who are pissed off and fed up with the war and the military."

Miss Fales, 25, said she became involved with the coffeehouses movement after working in the Newark ghetto. "On a very gut level," she said, "I was so mad about the war, it is so terrible that I really wanted to do something about it. Also, I didn't want to see black people getting shot up in that war and I wanted to tell people in the army what is really going on in the ghetto."

Coalitions for Peace

Continued from page 5

Vietnam Moratorium Committee in the Anti-Draft week of March 16-22.

It provides the occasion for many other forces to move into this arena of struggle. Actually, the real organizing service which these two most publicized End-the-War coalitions provide is the occasion for the larger, unrelated and unstructured peace forces in every area of American life to express their end-the-war and anti-draft demands. These new forces need every encouragement to take initiatives and fully participate. Those of us who have been activists in the peace movement over the years seek the greater inclusion of others. This is a key task for Communists and is an imperative for a majority expression. This is the kind of a movement which makes it possible to force the Administration-Pentagon-Industrial complex, U.S. imperialism, to retreat, and for the movement of "Bring our Boys home" to merge with the "Let's go home" movement.

This also points to the close interrelation of the anti-draft movement with the developments among the G.I.s. The exposure of criminal atrocities committed by U.S. armed forces against the Vietnamese men, women and children shocked millions of Americans. Such brutal, deliberate, murderous acts represent the decadence of capitalism, and the barbarity of U.S. imperialism. In such a situation, those who defied the military high command and those who refused to be a party to atrocities stand out ever more heroic. That applies to the Fort Hood Three, to those in the Presidio and Fort Dix and other stockades. These events also demonstrate the necessity of the coffeehouses, of the G.I. newspapers, and for the constitutional civil rights and liberties of the G.I. while in service.

The mass movement against the draft has produced not only heroes in prison but also a new alternative plan of military service—a two-and-a-half million higher paid voluntary army backed up by a stand-by drafted army. With this proposal the Nixon Administration only demonstrates that the solution cannot be found in a reformed selective service nor in a volunteer army committed to the purposes of U.S. imperialism. He seeks only a bigger and bigger military establishment. Previous to World War II, the peacetime armed forces of the U.S. were closer to half a million men. But since World War I, the strength of the armed forces have never dropped below one and a half million, in 1950. During the Korean war, strength of the armed forces rose to over two million, and since 1966 over three million men have been on active duty.

The immediate demand can well be for a cut-back to such a size — and with no U.S. troops outside of our borders — and no military bases to dominate other countries or to provoke war. That requires a reversal of U.S. policy from an aggressive war policy to a peace policy. The Nixon administration tries to manipulate the youth in the draft and volunteer army there just as he tries to maneuver the American people on the so-called withdrawal of troops by combining it with his Vietnamization, which means continued and intensified war implemented with a major war in Laos. The whole Nixon program is based on U.S. military rule and domination in all parts of the world. That must be reversed.

Anti-draft week of March 16-22, initiated in February by New Mobilization, cannot be separated from the struggle against repression, racism and the war. It must also be related to and build up the April 14-15 massive demonstrations and actions on the theme "Who pays for and who profits from the war." All of this is part of the Spring offensive to end the war and bring all the troops and materiel home from Vietnam, Laos and all of Southeast Asia.

Editor's memo

You've been reading about the drug epidemic in New York and eslewhere and like every decent minded American you are shocked to the marrow. Kids dying in hallways and basements from the stuff. Schoolhouses have become the terrain of the pusher who hunts his prey like a fox hunts rabbits. Schoolboys and schoolgirls get heroin with their algebra.

The newspapers have been printing acres of columns on the tragedies. But as usual they are not pointing the thick finger at the truly guilty. The small fry, relatively, are caught and locked up with great police fanfare. See, the authority is saying, we're doing something. But nobody among the lords of the press talks about the widespread complicity of the police nor the higher-ups who are in this up to their Adams' apples.

Of course the press does not get at the core of the problem. To do so they would be obliged to make admissions that go against the grain of their vested interest in the status quo. To get at the roots of this they would have to admit the truth of what they have been denying all this time.

They would have to admit that the social order in our country breeds this tragedy. The dope traffic is built into the system as the Stock Exchange is. The same goal motivates both, and nobody can prove to me that members with seats on the Stock Exchange are not involved one way or another, either by their silence or their more active complicity.

Yet this horror can be mitigated to a degree by a public marching on the angry alert as it would against the invasion of aggressors. The trade unions in the first place, the parent teachers associations, the faculties, the church bodies, all public organizations, should, I submit, be persuaded to move in a broad phalanx on the municipal, state and federal agencies for remedial action.

Yet I do not plead guilty to cynicism if I say that even this will fail to stamp the blight out. It will continue, to one degree or another, as long as, say, prostitution continues, as long as military-industrial complexes breed wars, in brief, as long as capitalism exists. The profit system is synonymous with misery, hence it gives rise to the industry of the pusher, that creature of the free private enterprise system.

But no commercial paper admits this, for they too are owned by the big-time hustlers, the seekers for the quick buck. And if getting that buck means buttoning up the lip, the lip is buttoned.

For such reasons Americans need a paper such as this, and for this reason, those out to promote this paper in the campaign to get 6,500 new readers, (one third of them by April)* are meeting with success. One enterprising lady came into the office remembering that we had carried articles warning of this dope plague, in which we used data prepared by the World Health Organization of the U.N. These were in the issues of Sept. 7, 1968, and March 29, 1969.

Showing these articles to prospective readers made authentic the claim that this periodical rang bells warning of this danger long before it broke into the headlines in panic proportions.

For these reasons we hope you will help us fight this plague by getting new subscribers. Elsewhere in the Daily World and People's World you will find a sub blank. Please fill it out—for yourself if you are not yet a subscriber, for a friend, relative or shopmate, if you are.

You put a strike over on the pushers when you get a new reader for this paper.

Yours,

Joseph North

Editor, World Magazine

*This is for the Daily World. The People's World is also conducting a fund drive and subscription campaign.

MAIL SLOT

TAKES ISSUE ON OKINAWA QUESTION

I would like to lodge a protest against the article by Victor Perlo in regard to the Okinawa Problems, which appeared in the Feb. 21 issue of World **Magazine.** He seems to contend that the people of Okinawa are not Japanese, claiming that "the Ryukyu people spoke their own language and had their cultural individuality... In 1879, however, (Okinawa)... was annexed by Japanese imperialists..."

These claims can be refuted: the language spoken by Okinawans is a dialect of Japanese (although Japan is a small country, we have many dialects, some of which are very difficult for a Tokyoan to understand). As to cultural individuality, their culture is similar to Japanese (take musical instruments, dress, etc.) and each district of Japan, as is true with any country, can offer some individuality in culture; and, as regards 1879, it was the year when Okinawa became a prefecture of Japan (all provinces of Japan were divided into prefectures around that time), but as far back as 1609 Mr. Shimatsu, a warlord, conquered the Ryukyu islands. It is true that Okinawans were and are, subjected to discrimination and oppression by Japanese imperialists and that the Ryukyuans paid tribute to both Chinese emperors and Japanese warlords. Many historians believe, however, that Okinawans mainly came from Kyushu, Japan.

Further, even under the former Japanese imperialists, Okinawans were at least officially treated as full-fledged Japanese, in contrast to the Koreans and Formosans, who were treated as colonial peoples. For example, the late secretary of the Communist Party of Japan, Kyuichi Tokuda, came from Okinawa, and there are some prominent people in various fields who are Okinawans. In this connection, I should mention that no Korean, no Chinese and no white (unless he is sent from a foreign company which has some relation with a Japanese company) can get any respectable employment even now.

In any case, the people of Okinawa are strongly tied to Japan through historical and cultural background.

Progressive Okinawans and progressive forces in mainland Japan have been fighting for the return of Okinawa to Japan without U.S. bases, especially nuclear bases. For example, Mr. Kamejiro Senaga, chairman of Jinminto (Communist Party of Okinawa), stated, "Return of Okinawa to Japan should be considered as a struggle for the real independence, democracy and safety of Japanese race, and of peace in Asia. The fact that the people of Okinawa prefecture (Japanese nationals) living in Okinawa prefecture (Japanese territory) are under the suppression of U.S. military forces... shows that Japan has not acquired real independence..." Sekai, Oct., 1968.

Further, a poll taken in Okinawa (1968) indicated that 31% favored immediate return (within one year), 21% within three years, 17% within five years, with none against the return. It might also be interesting to Americans that Okinawans, when demonstrating for the return of Japan or on any occasion, use the Japanese flag (the rising sun), which is never used in the progressive demonstrations on the mainland (it is considered a symbol of militarism by many workers and students).

In my, and progressive Japanese's, opinion, the problem is not whether Okinawa should be returned to Japan or not, but how it should be returned, with or without the U.S. bases. We (including Okinawans) are against the retention of the U.S. bases and the exploitation of the working people of Okinawa by Japanese and U.S. capitalists. Therefore, it is true, as Perlo stated, "the return" negotiated between Sato and Nixon was denounced by Okinawans and Japanese progressives, but this does not mean that they are against the true return of Okinawa to Japan. Japanese and U.S. imperialists do not have the right to "return" or "claim" Okinawa, but the Okinawans and the Japanese people have the right and the responsibility to prevent Okinawa from being used as a milihary base for launching aggression and as a field for exploitation.

In the idea of "independent" Okinawa, however, there is a dangerous pitfall. A certain reactionary section in Okinawa wants an "independent" Okinawa under U.S. occupation. Under the present circumstances, the idea only causes confusion among progressives in Okinawa and Japan, dividing them in the fight against the Japanese and U.S. imperialists.

Our purposes of fighting for the turn of Okinawa to Japan are to liberate our brothers and sisters in Okinawa from the yoke of the U.S. occupation and to get rid of the U.S. bases, thereby reducing the source of tension and aggression. We are against the terms negotiated between Sato and Nixon because they mean "Okinawazation" of Japan proper, the continuation of the Security Treaty and the aggression against other Asian countries.

K. Goto

THE AUTHOR RESPONDS

Mr. Goto confirms my statements that the Okinawans were and are discriminated against by Japanese imperialism, that a major issue is the elimination of U.S. bases, and that the "return" negotiated by Nixon and Sato is harmful both to the people of Japan proper and those of Okinawa.

Mr. Goto, however, appears to regard the "return" of Okinawa as a good alternative to the evil of continued U.S. military occupation. I claim that the people of Okinawa have a right to determine their own future, **and can exercise that right freely only after all occupation troops are withdrawn** and not by a Gallop poll while under U.S. rule.

Sato, and the Japanese monopolists, want to continue the disfiguring of Japan proper by scores of U.S. bases, its use as a war support by U.S. armed forces, and increased participation by Japanese imperialism in foreign expansion, in alliance with and "independently" of U.S. imperialism.

Self-determination for Okinawans means the right to insist on agreement that there be no foreign bases on Okinawa, that there be an end to all discrimination between Okinawans and people of the main Japanese islands, that people of Okinawa not be required to participate in militarist adventures of Japanese imperialism.

Okinawans were treated as a colonial people before, and their not being "called" colonial by Japanese imperialism didn't change that any more than France calling Algeria part of Metropolitan France, or the U.S. calling Puerto Rico a Commonwealth. That didn't change matters in these colonies. Obviously what Okinawans want is a new status, not a "return" to the old.

Self-determination does not mean that Okinawans must, or are likely to choose, independence. But without that right, they have no power to influence their own future, they are left as pawns to be maneuvered by two imperialist powers.

Mr. Goto refers to Okinawan reactionaries who want an "independent" Okinawa under U.S. occupation. Obviously that has nothing in common with self-determination, or the welfare of the Okinawan people. Neither does an Okinawa nominally under Japanese rule, with U.S. occupation unabated, and representatives of Japanese imperialism supplementing the U.S. military power.

No strict parallels can be drawn. But we may be nearing the time when U.S. imperialism will strive to perpetuate and tighten its colonial rule and military disfigurement of Puerto Rico by annexing it as a 51st state. The nominal equality involved will not end the subjugation of the Puerto Ricans, any more than the "granting" of statehood to Alaska ended the oppression of the Eskimos or the conversion of Alaska into a gigantic military base and area of exploitation by imperialist oil combines.

Puerto Rican and .S. progressives agree that the Puerto Rican people should have the right to decide their own future, including the right to independence, without the presence of U.S. troops and U.S.-chosen officials and laws to influence the choice. Though the situation of Puerto Rico and Okinawa is not the same, Okinawans, like Puerto Ricans, must be accorded the right to self-determination.

Victor Perlo

The enemy in the Middle East

This is the seventh article in response to the Foreign Policy Association's *Great Decisions — 1970*. The FPA topic is "What stakes for great powers in the Arab-Israeli conflict?"

By TOM FOLEY

The U.S. Foreign Policy Association's series, **Great Decisions—1970**, includes as a topic **The Middle East: What Stakes for Great Powers in the Arab-Israeli Conflict?**

This approach has to be rejected from the very beginning. The Middle East is **not** a "great power" conflict nor is it an "Arab-Israeli" conflict.

The struggle in the Middle East, as elsewhere in the world, is between all the peoples fighting for national liberation and socialism on one side, against the imperialists led by the U.S. ruling class on the other. It is a conflict which finds both Arabs and Israelis fighting for peace and genuine national independence against Arab feudal monarchs, Israeli militarists, giant U.S. oil monopolies, the Pentagon and the CIA. It is a conflict which finds the Soviet Union and the socialist camp exerting all their efforts to give moral and material aid to the anti-imperialist side.

But while the Middle East conflict is basically the same as the other struggles between the people and the capitalists now going on in Asia, Africa, Latin America, and within the U.S. as well, it has provoked more intense emotions and grave misunderstandings than most other conflicts in the world today.

The basic facts are these: the Middle East is the area where three continents, Europe, Asia and Africa, come together. Within the Middle East, the vital link is the Sinai-Suez region: by land, this is the most ancient invasion route in the world; by sea, it ties together the Atlantic-Mediterranean-Black Sea with the Red Sea-Indian Ocean-Pacific. In modern times, the most vital air routes between the continents pass over this region, too.

Because of its strategic location the British, the dominant imperialist power in the area up to the mid-20th century, called the region the "Middle East" — it was mid-way on the route between Britain and India. When the Suez Canal opened in 1869, it was not too long before Britain occupied Egypt (in 1882) to insure political-military control over this vital link in its "imperial lifeline."

Geography alone would have made the Mid-East strategically important, but the discovery of oil in the Persian Gulf in 1908 doubled the area's crucial role. Modern industry, and modern armies, navies and air forces, run on oil. The big oil-producing area until recently in the Mid-East was located in the Persian Gulf: Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and the Persian Gulf sheikhdoms. The big customer for this oil was Western Europe. In-between — once again — was the "Middle" East. More than 82% of the oil sent out of the Persian Gulf to Europe passed through the Suez Canal.

Aswan Dam, United Arab Republic, built with Soviet aid. Soviet Export '67

Arab crew drilling for oil for Aramco, American company, in Saudi Arabia. Aramco

By 1967, the Mid-East was producing 10 million barrels of oil a **day** (one barrel: 33 gallons), three million barrels a day in Saudi Arabia alone.

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After World War II, the U.S. took Britain's place as the main oil imperialist power in the Mid-East. Saudi Arabia, where the Arabian-American Oil Co. (ARAMCO) put its fields into full production in 1945, represents, according to the U.S. State Department, "the largest single American investment in any foreign country." All told, the U.S. capitalists probably have more than $4 billion invested in Mid-East oil, and as the FPA guide states, the profit on this averages $1 billion a year. This undoubtedly represents one of the highest rates of profit of any U.S. foreign investment.

To maintain its position in the Mid-East, U.S. capitalism supports the worst, most feudal and barbaric elements in the Arab world: King Faisal in Saudi Arabia, Sheikh Sabah in Kuwait, former King Idris in Libya, a horde of petty princelings in the Persian Gulf, and King Hassan II in Morocco and King Hussein in Jordan. Jordan for long had the distinction of being the only regime besides the one in Saigon to receive a direct U.S. military budget subsidy, averaging $45 million a year; but the other Arab kings receive U.S. political, military and economic "aid" too, in order to keep their people in line.

The close alliance between Arab feudalism and U.S. imperialism means that any popular Arab movement for change, socialist or not, automatically finds itself facing imperialism. This is true even of basic, elementary demands for the right to form trade unions, political parties, etc. It is even more true of what might seem to be a "nationalist" aim, to give a people control of their own nation's resources: Arab control of Arab oil, for instance.

As might be expected from its location, the clash between feudal-imperialist forces and the people has always been sharpest in Egypt, today called the United Arab Republic. The 1952 revolution in Egypt had as its major aim the establishment of Egyptian control over Egypt's two major resources, the Nile River and the Suez Canal. In 1952, the nationalist army officers led by Colonel (now President) Gamal Abdel Nasser could not have foreseen that this aim would bring them into a con-

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flict with imperialism which is still going on.

There are several reasons why Egypt became the focal point of anti-imperialist struggle in the Mid-East. It is the most heavily-populated of all the Arab states, with nearly half (34 million) the total Arab population of the world. It is the cultural and intellectual center of the Arab world, the most industrially and economically advanced Arab state, with the largest industrial working class.

But in addition to promoting its own revolutionary aims, Egypt gave support and encouragement to all anti-imperialist forces in the Middle East, Asia and Africa. In 1954, Egypt backed the Algerian FLN; in 1958, revolutions in Iraq, Lebanon and Syria; in 1960, Lumumba in the Congo; in 1961, Egypt nationalized more than $1 billion in property from its own Egyptian capitalists, whom it accused of being in league with imperialism; in 1962-68, the UAR provided heavy support to the Yemeni Republicans fighting against Imam Badr, Saudi Arabia and the U.S.; and the UAR also back the Arab revolt in Aden, which led to the withdrawal of the British and the proclamation of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen in 1967.

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Of course, one reason the UAR was able to do all this was that it was receiving solid support from the socialist countries, first of all from the Soviet Union. The USSR was a latecomer to the Mid-East scene. As an oil-exporting state itself, it had no interest in the oil of the Mid-East. It has never sought to acquire bases or territory in the Middle East. Its involvement, starting in 1955, came about through a purely commercial arms sale to Egypt, paid for in Egyptian cotton and raw materials. But when the British-French-Israeli attack on Suez took place in 1956, it was the stern warning of the USSR to the West that caused the aggressors to withdraw.

Certainly, it was in no one's interest that the imperialists should be allowed to rivet their control on the Suez Canal once more in 1956, and in the process smash the forces of revolt in the Arab world. The Soviet action helped Egypt maintain control of its Suez resource. In the years that followed, Soviet aid to the UAR — 85% of it for industrial projects — helped it to develop the heavy industrial sinews which a modern nation needs to be truly independent, and with it, of course, was created a new social force, the industrial working class, in UAR society.

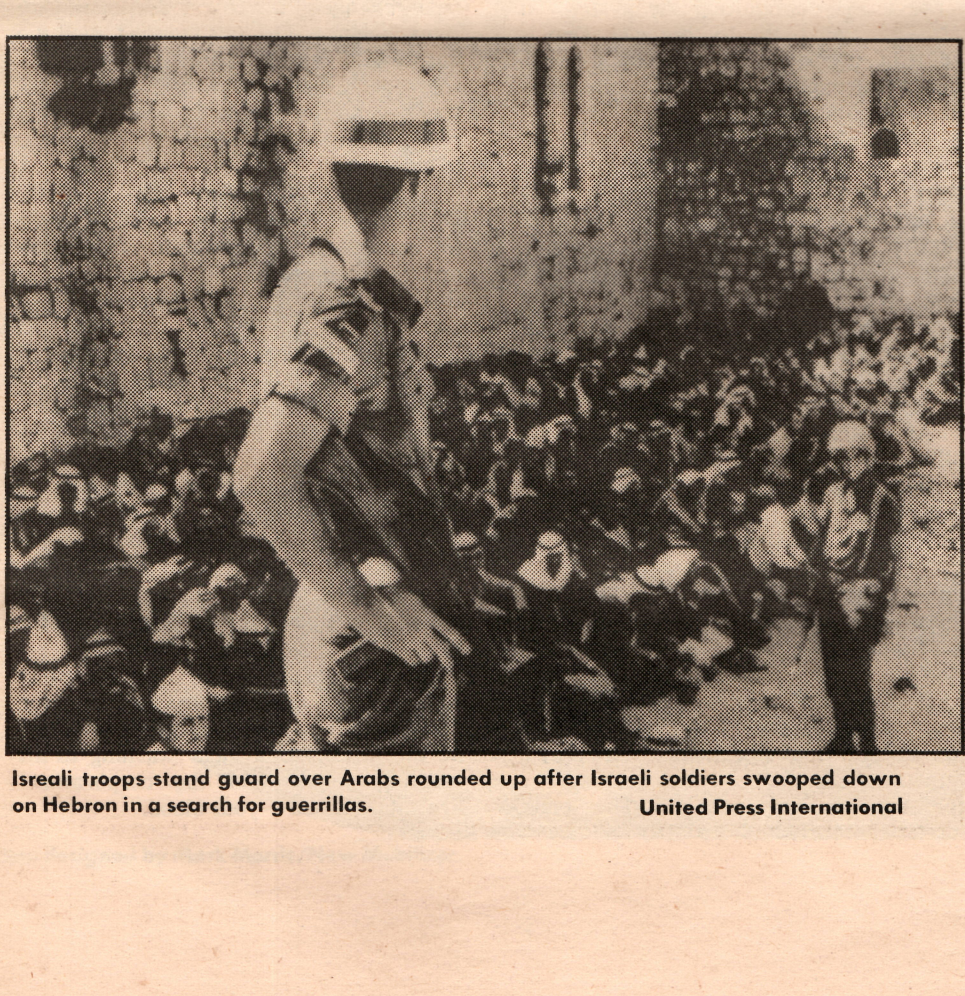
The Aswan Dam alone (a UAR-Soviet project) will double the UAR's total electric power output to the "European" level and create the basis for a whole new steel and chemical complex, while adding by 25% to the total irrigated farm land in the UAR. The USSR has extended a number of loans to the UAR to help it build its independent economy, but these have not led to the exploitation and gouging associated with imperialist loans: instead of the current imperialist terms of 8-12% repayable in gold or hard currency in 10-12 years; a typical Soviet loan is 2% or less for 12-25 years, repayable in any kind of commodity (i.e., cotton, jute, rice, etc.) and can be extended for five years on demand. Soviet loans are not "tied" (to the purchase of goods in the donor country as nearly all U.S. loans are), and the final contrast is that no U.S. loans are for primary projects (power, means of production, etc.) while nearly all Soviet loans are.

There is plenty of evidence that by the mid-1960s, the U.S. was becoming extremely alarmed by the UAR's economic growth, its continued support for revolutionary movements, and its close cooperation with the socialist countries.

By this time, as a result of the experience of 1956, U.S. imperialism had developed other sources of oil outside the Persian Gulf, and was building supertankers to carry huge amounts of oil at a profit all around Africa from the Gulf to Europe. So its antagonism toward the UAR was more in terms of the UAR's revolutionary potential than in its control of the Suez Canal. U.S. imperialism felt its oil interests in Saudi Arabia and the Persian Gulf were threatened by the Arab revolution, specifically by UAR support for the revolt in Yemen, the February 1966 leftist coup in Syria, and the mid-1966 pro-Nasser riots in Jordan. The U.S. moved to smash all these outbreaks against it, but not directly. Israeli military power was the means it chose.

Israel's 1967 population was 2.7 million: this small country had received in all forms of foreign aid since 1948 nearly $8 billion dollars, half of it from the U.S. The U.S.aid added up to more than $1,500 for every Israeli man, woman and child (compared with a per capita U.S. aid total of 50 cents for every African, by way of contrast). Yet, despite this, Israel was no more economically independent in 1967 than in 1948 — less so, in fact.

In 1966, Israel was paying 20% of its total national income — one dollar out of every five it earned — in interest charges on loans, mainly U.S. loans to buy war equipment. The overstrained economy could not stand it: its growth rate fell in a single year from 11% in 1965 to 0.6% in 1966 In the same period, its unemployment rate went from 3 to 10%. That year (1966), about 12,000 people settled in Israel and 11,000 left.



Isreali troops stand guard over Arabs rounded up after Israeli soldiers swooped down on Hebron in a search for guerrillas.

United Press International

Arab refugees from Israel near Damascus, Syria.

UN News Features

To understand what was happening, it is necessary to refer to the November 2, 1917, Baulfour Declaration, this "act of generosity" on the part of the British expressing their support for a Jewish national home in Palestine. As Herbert Asquith wrote in his diaries, besides Balfour himself "the only other partisan of this proposal is Lloyd George, who, I need not say, does not give a damn for the Jews or their past or future."

The purposes of the Balfour Declaration were to establish a British claim to the northern approaches to Suez by land, which the French were claiming as part of their spoils of war in "Syria" (a geographic miracle!); to subvert the allegiance of German and Austrian Jews to Britain's enemies; and to divert Jews in Russia (then a British ally) from participating in the revolutionary movement. Thus the British imperialists preyed upon the deepest aspirations of many Jewish people for their own sordid political aims. A remarkably similar process is at work today in regard to U.S. "support" for Israel.

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U.S. imperialism is exploiting Israel and the Israeli people for its own vicious aims in the Mid-East and elsewhere in the world; in imperialist strategy, Israel is a wedge driven into the Arab world, a buffer insulating the Arabian Peninsula and the Persian Gulf from any direct influence from the revolutionary center in the UAR; it is a continual threat with which UAR control of the Suez Canal is rendered insecure; finally, it is a military tool to try to smash revolt against imperialism in the Arab world, in 1967 as in 1956.

U.S. imperialism has sought to exploit Jews in every possible way against the forces of national-liberation and socialism all over the world. It has tried to undermine the allegiance of Jews to the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, it has built up a myth of "Soviet anti-Semitism" to divert Jewish people from participating in the revolutionary movement—and it has covered up with a smokescreen of lies the fact that the bestial imperialism of Nazi Germany was not entirely unaided in its destruction of six million Jewish people, many of whom could have been saved if there had been no anti-Semitic British and U.S. immigration laws, if there had been a Second Front in 1943 as the USSR proposed.

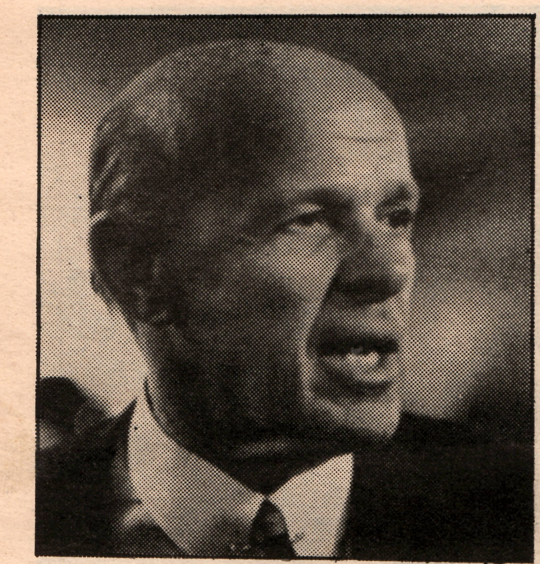
The Jewish people in Europe played an important and often prominent role in most modern revolutionary movements. They first received full civil rights from Napoleon in the course of a great revolutionary upsurge, and found that the reactionary, clerical-aristocratic forces wanted to re-enslave them along with all the rest of the ordinary people. Thus, out of self-interest, the Jews often took the side of revolution against reaction.

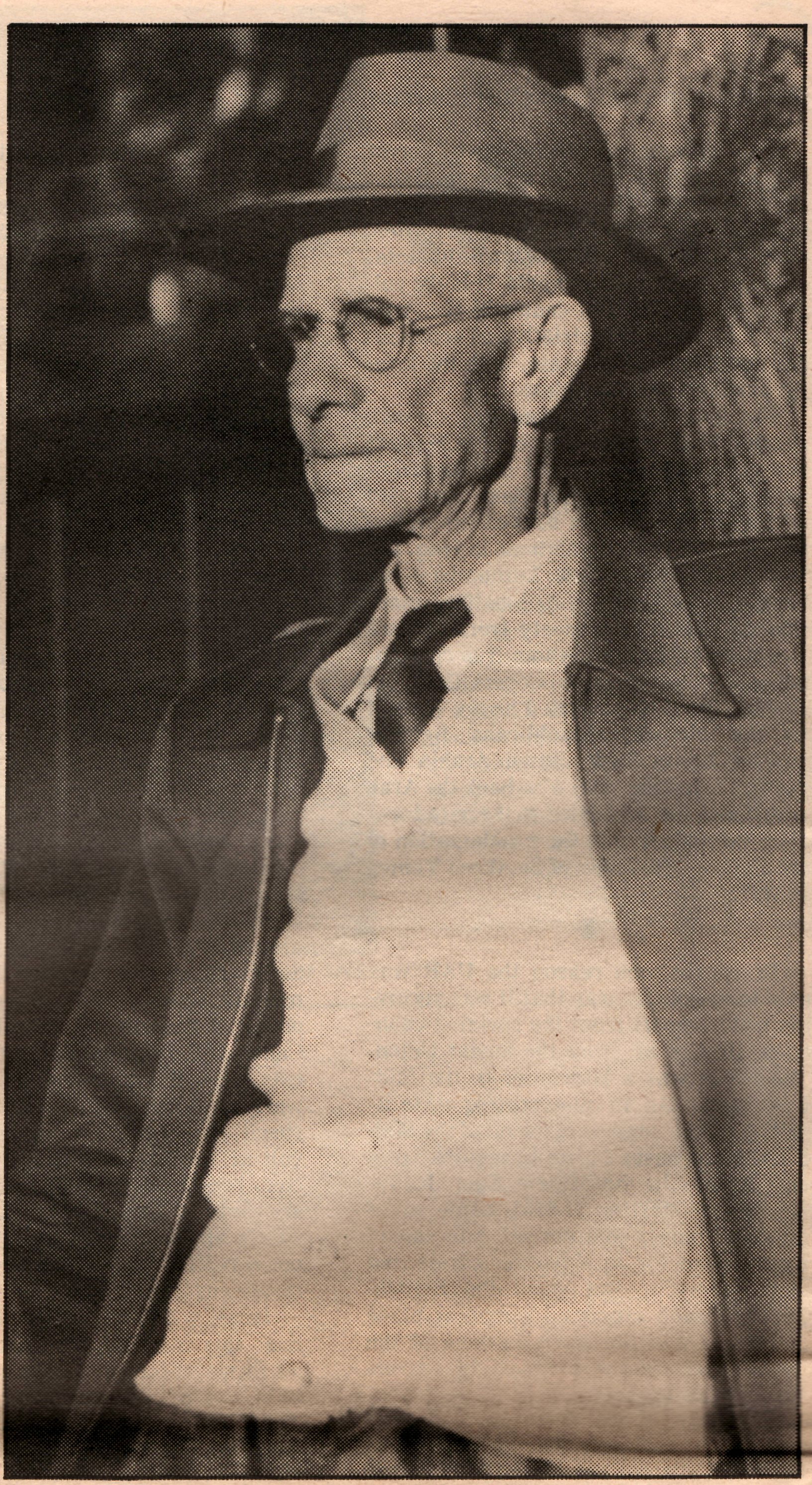
One of the tragedies of our times is that U.S. imperialism has sought to reverse this process, so that instead of upholding their great tradition of fighting for liberty and justice for all men, Jewish people are told by the imperialists that their only hope of survival is on the imperialist side. They are incited not only to fight against Arabs in the Mid-East, but to oppose the just demands of oppressed groups and peoples in the U.S. who, like the Arabs, want to control their own lives.

There is a myth that the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency is only authorized to work abroad, not in the U.S., when in fact the CIA is specifically empowered to work with every emigre and ethnic group in the U.S. which has ties in a socialist country. In 1964, to handle this work, the CIA set up its Domestic Operations Division with its very secret headquarters on the fifth floor at 1750 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, D.C. There can be no doubt that this "work" includes close contact and operations involving the U.S. Jewish community.

This is probably a major reason why a totally distorted picture of the 1967 war was painted in the U.S. It was not seen for what it was, an attempt to smash revolutionary regimes in the UAR and Syria and to establish control over the Palestinians in Jordan — in U.S. imperialist interests, not Israel's. People were led to believe that the war was caused by some threats over the Arab radio which frightened the Israeli government and army, when, in fact, the Israelis were well-aware that no Arab army had an offensive capacity, and that the Israeli army (255,000) outnumbered the combined armies of five Arab states (225,000). After the war, which Israeli General Mordechai Hod said should be called a "blitzkrieg," the actions of the socialist countries to keep imperialism from defeating the Arab revolutionary movement and to bring about a peace based on the U.N. resolution of November 22, 1967, were systematically distorted in the U.S. mass media.

Yet, who "won" in 1967? Certainly not the Israeli people, whose burdens are heavier than ever; nor the U.S. imperialists, now that revolutions have occurred in Sudan and Libya and threaten in Jordan and Saudi Arabia. One could speak of "winning" only now, when there is growing awareness among both Arabs and Israelis that their real interests lie together against imperialism and not separately against each other.





George S. Moore, chairman of First National City Bank, left, couldn't care less about the requirements of citizens over 65 who are dependent on social security payments.

MORE HANDS IN YOUR POCKETS

By ERIK BERT

The First National City Bank has opened a two-front offensive to curtail Federal benefits to the masses of the people and to make the people pay a heavier share of the Federal tax load:

1. To dismantle the Social Security system.
2. To replace the income tax with a federal tax on sales.

Each project is presented, in the February issue of the bank's **Monthly Economic Letter**, with the adeptness of a skilled pickpocket.

The First National is no fly-by-night operation. In Fortune magazine's annual rating, it takes third place of all banking establishments, topped only by the Bank of America and the Chase Manhattan Bank, and has assets of $23 billion.

The Bank's attack on the Social Security system is tied in explicitly with the current downturn in economic activity. The **Monthly Economic Letter** complains that the "Federal Social Security program . . . continues to flourish even in years when budget stringencies force widespread retrenchment elsewhere."

In short, the Social Security system must become a prime target of "retrenchment."

●

The Bank presents its evil intentions by retailing the views of named and anonymous economists. (That is, to prevent unwary readers from realizing that the voice they hear is actually that of $23 billion.) For example: "Economists from both liberal and conservative camps have been issuing a call . . . for fundamental reform of the Social Security system."

The Bank disclaims, again through the voices of puppet figures, any intention of wanting to dismantle the system.

"Expert concern is not over the traditional goals of the system," it declares beneficently. "There is general recognition that the Federal Government must have a program that provides income replacement where death, disability or retirement damages the earning capacity of families and individuals. The principle of providing public medical insurance for the aged has also won wide acceptance.

The issue, the bank says, is only "whether social security has become a sacred cow, immune from the kind of searching analysis that ought properly to be applied to all forms of public spending... The system has taken on a life of its own, proving quite immune to comparisons with other programs."

And, since Social Security should not be a "sacred cow," there are "serious questions as to whether further increases in the scale of the system should receive priority."

This is in reference to the 15% increase in benefits which President Nixon was compelled to put into his budget.

There are "doubts that the (Social Security) system serves its goals as efficiently as some logical alternatives," the bank says piously, for the system puts a "tax bite" on the working man. The bank argues that the worker, especially the young worker, should not be regimented under Social Security. It bids the working man consider how Social Security cuts his income: "Social Security taxes have been rising much more rapidly than collections from either the individual or corporate income tax."

One answer would be to increase corporation taxes and lower the burden of Social Security taxes. But the Bank will have none of that.

Let us return to the bank's concern for the working man.

"Under existing law . . . the combined employer-employee tax . . . is a hefty burden" on the worker's income. **"Furthermore, the employee also bears a major part of the burden of the employer's tax,"** the bank says in unprecedented candor. **"Most economists agree that eventually most of the employer's tax is shifted back to the worker in the form of lower real wages."** (My emphasis — E. B.)

The obvious solution is to increase the tax on corporation profits. The possibility of shifting such a tax to the consumer is slight. The bank, of course, does not see this as a reasonable alternative.

In another display of candor the **Monthly Letter** says:

"If a young worker calculates the total maximum tax payments he and his employer can expect to pay, plus interest, over his lifetime, the present value of these contributions exceeds the value of his scheduled benefits under existing law."

The obvious conclusion is that the young worker is being swindled, somehow or other.

The bank's concern for the young worker is in fact merely an attempt to pit young workers against old workers. The "young workers are financing the pensions of older workers in exchange for the implied obligation of the next and yet unborn generations of young workers to provide them with retirement benefits," the bank says.

One of the bank's "logical alternatives" is "shifting the Social Security system toward a more equitable and efficient anti-poverty program," for "Social Security has proved to be an inefficient mechanism for aiding the poor."

It quotes a Brookings Institution publication as saying that Social Security is " 'the most burdensome tax levied by the Federal Government on the poor in the United States . . .' "

●

First National City Bank's corporate heart bleeds for the poor. (As Mother Ella Reeve Bloor used to say about the banker with the artificial eye: "That eye was the more sympathetic of the two.")

What the bank really has in mind, however, is dismantling the system. It presents two paths to this end. One is splitting up Social Security by separating welfare payments from retirement disability and survivor benefits.

The other is to replace the Social Security system by private insurance. "The worker should be given the opportunity to choose between social or private insurance. He might well prefer a genuine insurance scheme that would allow greater certainty about his benefits," says the bank, implying there is uncertainty under the Social Security system.

Sneaky.

An indication that the bank with $23 billion would never stand for taxing corporations harder to alleviate the burden on the working man is its position on income and corporate taxes.

"The wisdom of heavy reliance on income taxes," says the bank, **"particularly corporate income taxes,** has been questioned increasingly in recent years." (My emphasis — E.B.)

It says there is even a question as to whether the corporation income tax hits the corporation stockholders or really hits the consumer. (Always looking out for the working people.) The bank would have us believe that the way to help consumers is to cut corporation income taxes, for then the corporations would not be forced to pass them on to the consumers, and the consumers would be that much better off.

A "broadly based Federal tax on sales," the bank insinuates, "would yield substantial amounts of revenue at relatively low tax rates."

The sales tax has been denounced, justifiably, for generations as regressive — that is, it hits the poorest most severely, and spares the rich. But times have changed, the First National City Bank declares. "Some contend that the question of regressivity has become less relevant in our affluent society and that the key question now is how to divert resources most efficiently from private to public use."

What the bank really means is: divert resources from the working people to corporate accumulation. Corporate profits are disguised as "public use," in this wonderworld of incorporated deceit.

The bank says that "if substantial amounts of additional tax revenue become vital to meet future national concerns," it knows how the funds can be raised.

"The introduction of a new type of tax might offer the only feasible way to raise those additional funds," it continues. That "new type of tax" is the "value-added tax," a "flat-rate tax levied at every point in the production process where goods are sold."

This is not the first time the First National City Bank has put in a plug for the national sales tax, and it will not be the last. It is a clear warning to all working people that the corporations are out for blood — your blood.

lerick Engels, 1847

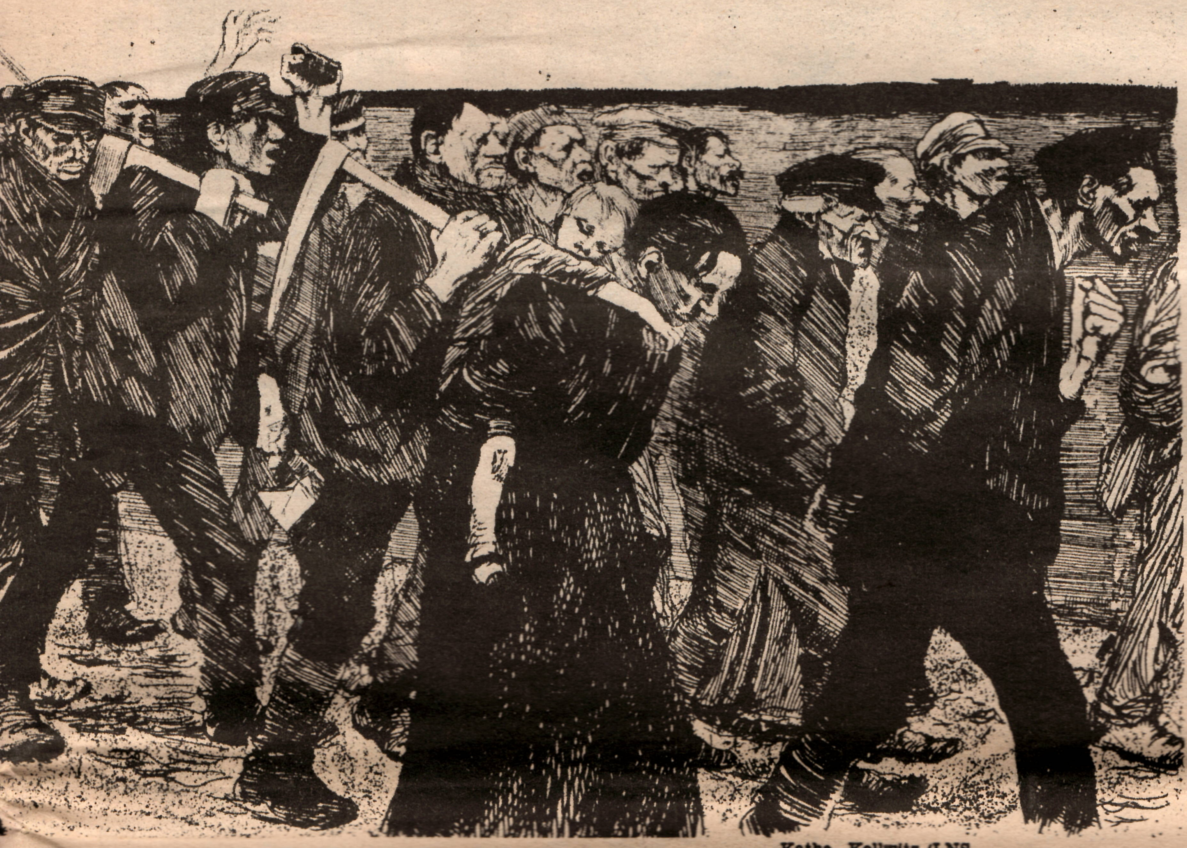
Answer: As distinct from the proletarian, the so-called handicraftsman, who way back in the last century existed almost everywhere, and in some places still exists, is at most a temporary proletarian. His aim is to amass capital himself and with it to exploit other workers. This aim he can frequently attain where there still exist guilds, or where freedom of manufacture has not yet led to craft developing into a factory system and to strong competition. But no sooner does the factory system develop into a craft and competition widely flourishes than this perspective falls apart, and the craftsman becomes ever more a proletarian. Hence, the craftsman frees himself either by becoming a bourgeois or by entering the ranks of the medium strata, or as a result of competition by becoming a proletarian (as is now more often the case) and joining the movement of the proletariat, i.e. a more or less conscious communist movement.

Question 13: Then you do not think that communal ownership was possible at any time?

Answer: No, communism came into being only when machinery and other inventions opened the way for all members of society to all-round education, to a happy existence. Communism is a doctrine on emancipation, which was impossible for slaves, serfs or craftsmen, but became possible only for the proletarians, and therefore it inevitably belongs to the 19th century and was impossible in previous times.

Question 14: Let's return to the sixth question. If you wish

(Continued on page 10)



Kathe Kollwitz/LNS

March of the Weavers

RS TO THE EDITOR

profit motivated, anarchic capitalist production.

But this is no reason to call the movement for cleaning up our environment "reactionary," any more than a movement to end war and racism is reactionary; none of these evils will ever be fundamentally dealt with as long as capitalism is still around.

Of course the monopolies will try to champion this movement, just as Lyndon Johnson once said, "We shall overcome." But the fact that "We" (and "he") didn't has radicalized millions, and the same potential exists among those struggling with the "ecology movement." Already there are demonstrations linking this issue to the war and racism, and rather than replacing the burning issues on the campus, the "ecology movement" is beginning to add new breadth to them.

The silly actions of some ecology activists (such as burying a $2500 car) will have to be fought, and they are being fought. The main danger would be that the radical movement (and the PW) would give up this fight and leave the struggle in the arms of Nixon and Kenneth Pitzer.

TED PEARSON, Chicago

For the kids' sake . . .

What do we care about what happens 50 years hence? Look, Carl, say you're 25 and you have a kid and when he's 25 he has a kid. That's your grandbaby you're talking about. And you don't care? Well, I care.

The folks in West Richmond get the smog from Standard Oil, etc., once in a while, depending on the wind, but the kids in the "housing developments" get it all the time. Sometimes they can't go out to play. The incidence of emphysema, etc., may well be higher.

OK, so put the blame where it belongs, another count against capitalism. There is no particular reason I can see to ignore one of their evils because they commit another.

Saying that the big shots have tainted ecology because they have touched it is simply the reverse of their saying peace must be bad because Communists are for it. Really! Do you refuse medicine because there is an AMA?

The rulers can only use ecology as a diversion if we let them. Instead of Vietnam or ecology, Vietnam is the most cancerous example of ecological destruction. Chemical destroyers of vegetation that mangle unborn babies is hardly less horrifying than napalm.

The future belongs to us. We'd better not let them mess it up.

—ELEANOR MILDER

Pass This Paper On

To A Friend

Editorial

Workers fight back

The pages of this edition of The People's World are dominated by news of workers fighting back.

Working people have been paying for the war in Vietnam — through layoffs, through inflation, through our war dead — and they are telling the government in no uncertain terms that they will not permit an additional "surtax" through lower wages and higher costs to pay for the not so secret war in Laos.

In Roseville, California, the largest rail yard west of Chicago, one-third of the yard's 2,200 man work force walked off their jobs last week despite a court injunction barring any kind of action by workers while attempts were being made to halt a possible rail strike.

The United Auto Workers' Union throughout the country is looking for ways of fighting the massive layoffs taking place in that industry.

Members and supporters of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee are stepping up — and spreading — organization and their boycott activity to put pressure on growers of table grapes in the fifth year of the farm workers' strike.

And in San Francisco, as this issue was going to press, public workerst were in the final stages of making plans for a general strike.

All of these actions — individually and collectively — have a special significance because of the political and economic ilimate in which they are taking place.

It is a climate in which President Richard Nixon not only talks about proposing legislation that would prohibit this particular rail strike. But he also talks about legislatin that would in effect do away with the Railway Labor Act and bring labor-management contradictions in the railway industry much closer to compulsory arbitration.

It is part and parcel of the same political framework in which the government can subpena newsmen's notes, making it virtually impossible for them to have any control over the products of their labor, and, as well, making in depth reportage of movement activities virtually impossible.

And it is part of the same political climate in which the government can suggest violations of constitutional guarantees such as requiring persons to undergo finger printing, blood tests and line-ups without arrest.

The government's policies — in labor, politics, education — are designed to put people's movements on the defensive, to give them no room to move, to demand, to seek solutions to controlling their problems.

We do not need a defense against these policies.

What is needed is an effective offensive against them. The railway workers showed the way towards this when they defied an injunction by the railroads' courts that prohibited them from stopping work.

This kind of an offensive against the government's policies, however, is not possible in isolation.

First — understanding, of just who must be fought — the Nixon administration and its ruling class allies — and who is on the same side fighting them.

There is also the business of more tangible solidarity — presence in demonstrations and on picket lines and a firm understanding of the need to provide funds for the bai land strike funds that make an offensive against the government's policies possible.

This is the kind of solidarity that can help an offensive grow.

From the staff

Justice Douglas: 'points of rebellion'

SAN FRANCISCO

IT WEIGHS about four ounces, but it carries real weight — as an indictment of U.S. monopoly capitalism.

It's the new little 97 page paperback by Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas, titled "Points of Rebellion." It also effectively demonstrates why conservatives want him impeached. It isn't every judge who holds the system in contempt.

Listen: "Man (in U.S.) has come to realize that if he is to have material 'success', he must honor the folklore of the corporation state . . . and walk to the measure of its thinking. The interests of the corporation state are to convert all the riches of the earth into dollars."

Looking at our educational structure, he declares, "Throughout the country the climate within our public schools has been against the full flowering of First Amendment traditions.

"The university is chiefly a handmaiden of the state or of industry or, worse yet, of the military-industrial complex . . . The university becomes a collection of technicians in a service station . . . technocrats for the technological society. Then all voices become a chorus supporting the status quo . . . The result is a form of goose stepping . . . An ominous trend is the increasing FBI activity on present day college and university campuses."

The judge warns of "the growing rightist tendencies in the nation that demand conformity—or else."

ON THE ROLE of U.S. militarism, Douglas states: "The Pentagon has a fantastic budget that enables it to dream of putting down much needed revolutions . . . in benighted countries.

"Where is the force that will restrain the Pentagon? . . . We the people are relentlessly pushed in the direction that the Pentagon desires."

On our economic condition, Douglas says, "We brag about our present unemployment. But this is due to Vietnam. Without Vietnam we would have 15% or more unemployment . . . The upside down welfare state helps the rich get richer and the poor, poorer. Railroads, airlines, shipping, these are all subsidized: and those companies' doors are not kicked down by the police at night."

As a long-time conservationist, he too is concerned about the ecology: "At the present rate of the use of oxygen in the air, it may not be long before there is not enough for people to breathe. The percentage of carbon dioxide in some areas is dangerously high," and points the finger at the main culprit—"What natural law gives the Establishment the right to ruin the rivers, the lakes . . . even the air?"

But beyond all these problems, says the Judge, "there is another, more basic problem: that political action today is most difficult. The major parties are controlled by the Establishment and the result is a form of political bankruptcy. The truth is that a vast bureaucracy now runs the country."

"Today's Establishment," says he, is the new George III. Whether it will continue to adhere to his tactics, we do not know. If it does the redress, honored in tradition, is also revolution."

AND HERE COMES the judge with his summation: Revolution is coming . . . "that revolution — now that the people hold the residual powers of government — need not be a repetition of 1776. It could be a revolution in the nature of an explosive political regeneration. It depends on how wise the Establishment is. If, with its stockpile of arms, it resolves to suppress the dissenters, America will face, I fear, an awful ordeal."

Methinks this judge is grown too wise for the Establishment, which he has studied for so long. It is obvious he sees the handwriting on the wall, and the shadow of fascism.

His days are numbered, and he's giving us the signal.

—SAM GOLD

Growers feeling crush of the boycott

Grape strike—the year of decision?

By SAM KUSHNER

HUELGA
NFWA
HUELGA
NFWA
VICTOR

Photo: George Ballis

CESAR CHAVEZ leads growing army of supporters as grape boycott spreads around the world. Hard struggle still lies ahead.

DELANO — While Huelgistas and their allies work around the clock and across the continent in behalf of the cause of unionization of the farm workers, those who have won their union organizing victory in the fields give some indication of what the fight is all about.

At a recent union meeting here Dario Jiminez, a worker at Perelli Minetti and Sons Vineyard, related how the AFL-CIO United Farm Workers Organizing Committee managed an almost impossible feat — winning a $2.50 an hour rate for pruning.

At first, Jiminez told his fellow unionists, the employer wanted to have a long probationary period on the new rate. Also he wanted the union to agree to a new discharge clause. After all, he argued, $2.50 for off season pruning is considerably above the going rate. But the workers convinced him that he would get a fair day's work in return for paying the highest pruning rate in these parts. He agreed to try it for eight days. And on the ninth day the employer agreed that he was getting his $2.50 worth every hour, out of every worker. The union has also succeeded in hanging on to its contract terms.

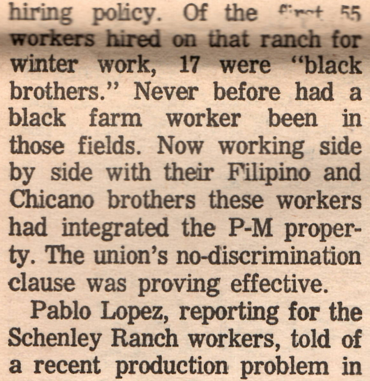
BLACK FARM WORKERS

But perhaps an even greater point of pride than having won top pruning pay for Perelli Minetti workers, was the dramatic change in the company's hiring policy. Of the first 55 workers hired on that ranch for winter work, 17 were "black brothers." Never before had a black farm worker been in those fields. Now working side by side with their Filipino and Chicano brothers these workers had integrated the P-M property. The union's no-discrimination clause was proving effective.

Pablo Lopez, reporting for the Schenley Ranch workers, told of a recent production problem in which the employer sought to put a minimum quota on the number of vines tied per hour. These workers who make $2.20 an hour, resisted, and won.

INCREASE DONATIONS

Lopez also told his fellow unionists, many of whom are Huelgistas living on the union stipend of $5 a week plus rent and food, that the Schenley workers had decided to raise their ante in financing the union's strike activities. Previously they had voted a dollar a week from their wages for Huelga. This was in addition to their regular dues payment of $3.50 per month. Now they've voted to donate an additional $2 a month for their union brothers on strike.



NEW FACES in the vineyards, as blacks win more jobs from the growers in the organized sector.

In many respects union meetings here among Huelgistas are among the most unique in the labor movement. Not only do they breathe the struggles of the fields but they also reflect the union's concern with many other struggles which it considers necessary to its best interests.

One such question is the war in Vietnam. Douglas Rippey, a volunteer organizer with the union in the early days of the strike, told the farm workers, "It is impossible for me to go to Vietnam and make war on the farmers there and to spray poison on their fields while we are striving for life and health here."

A year ago Rippey was ordered to report for induction. He refused, he said, "because in my own conscience I cannot go out and kill people." Also, he refused to become part of an army which he said was drafting him into "involuntary servitude" in violation of the U.S. Constitution. Rippey declared there are at least six treaties and international agreements to which the U.S. is a signatory that illegalize U.S. intervention in Vietnam.

AID WAR RESISTERS

As he was preparing for trial in a Fresno District Court, Rippey said to the campesinos, "I say stay here and fight — non-violently."

In addition to giving him a round of applause when he finished speaking, the union members voted to send a delegation to the courtroom in which Rippey was scheduled to be tried. Union vice president Gilbert Padilla, strike leader Pablo Espinosa and Rev. Mark Day were selected as members of the official union delegation.

Many others at the union meeting indicated they would travel the more than fifty miles to Fresno to be present in the courtroom. It was evident that Huelga solidarity these days means more than unity on economic issues affecting farm workers.

Despite the well-financed publicity campaign of the growers — variously estimated at costing between four and eight million dollars — many in UFWOC believe that this is the year of decision. The slick Whitaker and Baxter press releases in behalf of the growers and their fancy publicity schemes have in no way disheartened the farm union members or their leaders.

YEAR OF DECISION

In part, their confidence stems from the government released figures which show week after week, and month after month that the union's table grape boycott is effective.

There are many familiar faces missing from Delano these days. They are among the more than 100 strikers and full time union volunteers who are spearheading the boycott in 33 cities. With the assistance of labor organizations, student activists, church groups and Chicanos, almost 100 other U.S. and Canadian cities have felt the impact of the boycott.

Larry Itliong, assistant director of UFWOC, now heads up the boycott program and his office is staffed with four full timers and two others working part time.

Between 1966 and 1969 grape unloads in 36 major cities dropped 30%. The last "normal year" in grapes was 1966 — a pre-boycott year. In New York City carlot unloadings went down from 2,294 in 1966 to 1,525 last year. Percentage-wise, Baltimore is the pride of the boycott program, showing a 53% drop in grapes. Chicago, the scene of many grape battles, went down 23% between '66 and '68 and an additional 24% between '68 and '69.

In Los Angeles, one of the top grape consuming areas in the nation, carlot unloadings went from 2,161 in '66 to 1,807 last year. And in San Francisco it was down to 706 from 871 in the three year span.

BOYCOTT SUCCEEDING

One way that the union knows it is effectively hitting the grape growers is by the number of lugs in cold storage. Each lug of grapes weighs about 26 pounds. In 1969 there were almost two million more lugs in cold storage than the previous year.

While there has been a preoccupation with carlot and cold storage figures, little attention has been paid to the price paid growers for grapes sold. They have been going down as the growers desperately attempt to move the grapes.

During the week ending Nov. 20, 1969 just before the vital holiday season, the growers shipped only 522 carlots compared to 656 in the same week of '68. This was a 20% decrease. However, the growers in an attempt to break or weaken the boycott shipped 405 of them into the 36 major cities. This was up from 275 carlots shipped into the same cities the previous year.

However, FOB prices (that means the price of the lug loaded onto the truck or railroad car) went down between 38 cents and one dollar from the previous year.

GROWERS SUE

In the 26th week of the 1969 harvest Delano lugs were selling for $2.38 compared to $3.00 the year before — a drop of 62 cents. Delano and Fresno Ribiers sold for $3 a lug that week, down 38 cents from a year before. And Fresno area Almerias were selling for $2.75 a lug in the 26th harvest week of 1969 compared to $3.75 for a lug of grapes in the 26th week of the 1968 harvest.

Yet union officials are by no means satisfied with the results of the boycott movement. They are planning to tighten the squeeze this year, to bring the growers to the bargaining table.

In the Fresno federal court on Monday, Jan. 19 proceedings were scheduled to begin on a growers' suit against the union for $75 million in damages allegedly as a result of the boycott. Also the growers seek an injunction to prevent the union from continuing its boycott. Ironically, these are among the same growers who have been saying all along that the boycott has been ineffective.

In November, 1968 a federal court in San Francisco dismissed a similar growers' suit. The union successfully argued then that the injunction sought by the growers was in violation of the Norris-LaGuardia anti-injunction act.

However, Federal District Judge Crocker in Fresno didn't see it that way and has ordered proceedings to continue.

While the actual trial date of the suit has not yet been set, with only preliminary interrogations scheduled for the present, its possible import is strongly felt by the union.

"It will mean war in the fields" said union leader Chavez at a mid-'69 membership meeting — if the growers win their suit. Chavez emphasized that he and the union remain dedicated to non-violence.

Chavez said that he would be the first to violate any injunction issued against the union's boycott and would face a jail sentence if there is an attempt to enforce it.

No longer does the union ridicule the possibility of such an injunction. In the Nixon-Reagan era it's a distinct possibility, union officials say. While preparing to take the offensive on the boycott, in organizing and in consolidating the organized ranches, the union is also aware that it may be in for tough sledding in light of the reactionary political attacks currently faced by many people's organizations including UFWOC.

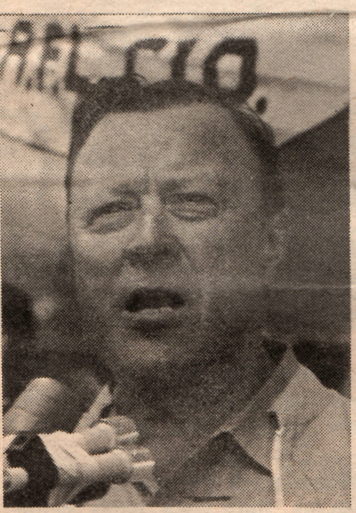
Monopolies plan '70 crackdown on unions

GM sets stiff curbs on UAW

By WILLIAM ALLAN

DETROIT — General Motors Corp., the biggest corporation in the world, has made it clear in a letter to its stockholders that besides making, after taxes, $1.7 billion dollars for 1969, it's going to get tough with the United Auto Workers and its over 600,000 union members in talks for a new contract.

GM top brass, chairman James Roche and president Edward Cole (both raked in $750,000 in salary, bonuses, profits on sales of stock in 1969), pointed out to the happy stockholders that wage boosts of the 400,000 employes allegedly exceeded productivity gains in recent years (read speedup), and this is why inflation is prevalent in America.



WALTER REUTHER — UAW chief keeps mum on tactics as contract time nears.

Therefore the target in 1970 as far as GM is concerned is that higher labor costs must be tied to higher productivity (speedup).

GM also wants to place on the bargaining table in 1970, demands that workers won't take any time off or engage in any strikes.

The company says, "This has cut into the efficiency of plant operations with predictable effects on manufacturing costs."

GM DECLARES WAR

This hard, public line of General Motors towards the UAW is a declaration of war that goes along with other preparations the monopolies generally are making to smash down on over five million unionists seeking new contracts, higher wages in 1970.

GM, Ford, Chrysler's big hole card in the 1970 situation is massive unemployment that they have had a big hand in creating.

Close to 200,000 workers are on short work weeks, with 25,000 at least laid off until the 1971 cars roll off next September.

Layoffs in the 1½ million auto industry are expected, according to UAW leaders, to go far past these figures, up into the half million class by May.

That's when the UAW comes to the bargining table with the Big 3 (GM, Ford, Chrysler).

GM press agents now are passing the word to newsmen that Reuther can't possibly ask for a pension of $500 a month, 30 years seniority and out of the shops.

They also say he can't ask for a $5 an hour minium wage (present wage is $3.84 an hour), or tying wages to government indexes of cost of living raises with no cap on the amount, like the present one of eight cents a year on a three year contract.

MORE SUB NEEDED

But the rank and file workers down in the auto shops and unemployment exchange lines are not buying this "poor mouthing" of the corporation's flak merchants.

The thousands now filing for unemployment compensation are getting an average of $50 a week.

Most of them don't get any Supplemental Unemployment Benefits (SUB). The younger workers now getting the layoff slips want SUB extended to all regardless of how much time or seniority a worker has.

There is $350 million in the SUB fund now. Polls by the union of workers in the union show this to be forging into the number one demand, with early retirement at 60 with $500 per month, or 30 years seniority as the second demand.

The older workers fear depression and want out instead of a layoff.

There is over $3 billion in the pension fund, contributed by the workers. The interest alone could retire thousands at $500 a month, even at 55 years of age and less than 30 years seniority, if the UAW leaders will battle on these issues. So far, Reuther has kept his demands to himself.

The provocative declarations of GM top officials demanding more speedup, no strikes, no absenteeism, and tying any wage increases to higher productivity, are a challenge to the UAW.

The three months strike of General Electric workers could be a pattern also in auto before a victory can be won.

UAW MEETS IN APRIL

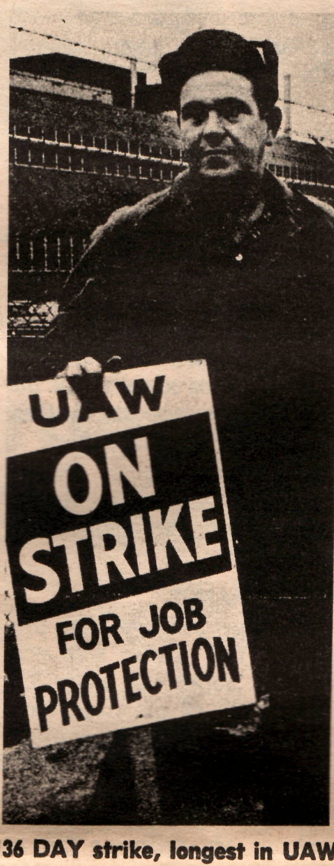
The target for the UAW will be picked at the April convention of the United Auto Workers in Atlantic City. There also the demands will be presented for 3,000 delegates representing 1½ million members.

Meanwhile, the sister union in the Alliance for Labor Action (ALA), the Teamsters, with 2.6 million members, is starting to negotiate for 450,000 over the road drivers.

They seek a $4 an hour package over three years to bring them up to $8 an hour.

That's some pace for the other millions of U. S. unionists to follow, especially if the Teamsters get a big piece of that demand.

It's clear that the layoffs in the auto industry are part of the "anti-inflation" program of the Nixon administration, with the aim of preparing the way for his administration to introduce wage freezes and controls as the profits of the auto companies continue to mount.



136 DAY strike, longest in UAW-GM history, ended at Fisher 2 plant in Michigan when company finally backed down from its attempted speed-up plans. Will this be the future pattern?

One of six priority cities

LA building trades pushed to act on minority hiring

LOS ANGELES — Notice has been served on the building trades industry in Los Angeles that the "countdown" has begun for it either to work out an agreement for massive hiring of blacks, Chicanos and other minorities or it will, in the very near future, have the "Philadelphia Plan" imposed on it.

Asst. Secretary of Labor Arthur Fletcher made this announcement here last week at a press conference. Los Angeles is but one of six "priority cities" which, he said, the U.S. Dept. of Labor considers so derelict in the hiring of minorities in the construction trades that action must be taken shortly.

Included among the six priority cities mentioned by the outspoken black government official is one other on the west coast, Seattle. The remainder are Boston, Detroit, Atlanta and Newark.

The highly controversial Philadelphia Plan, which is vehemently opposed by the craft unions in the building industry and by the contractors associations — as well as by the top echelons of the AFL-CIO — imposes specific minority hiring quotas on all trades for firms bidding on federal construction.

MORE FEDERAL JOBS?

The four and one half billion dollars in federal construction scheduled for Los Angeles in the next four years, Fletcher declared, makes it imperative that it come up with a workable plan for minority hiring. In the same period, he predicted, there will be an additional $37 billion in private construction here.

He summarily dismissed questions about the possibility of an even sharper downturn in the economy and predicted that President Nixon's "hold" on much of the presently planned federal construction will shortly be lifted.

City Councilman Billy Mills, one of the three black members on that 15 member body (and sponsor of the "Los Angeles Plan" under which companies doing over $500 worth of work for the city would have to hire minority workers) claimed that if a plan for minority hiring is not worked out by the end of March, the federal government will move in with its own.

In some respects the discrimination in the building trades industry here is worse than in Philadelphia, Fletcher declared. While he would not reveal specifics about each of the trades Fletcher said that they would be made public at a hearing previous to federal government action.

The alternative for Los Angeles is to either come up with its own equivalent of the Chicago Plan — a voluntary one without enforcement techniques but subject to Dept. of Labor review and approval — or have an equivalent of the Philadelphia Plan ordered.

MOVIE INDUSTRY PLAN

In effect the industry here was being told to follow the path announced by the motion picture and television industry at the end of February. This industry union plan is currently before the U.S. Dept. of Justice for approval.

One fifth of the industry will be made up of minority workers under the complex plan. It is expected to have an immediate job effect in at least one respect. Replacements due to deaths, resignations, and retirements can be from among the minorities long-barred from many of the crafts.

At present unemployment in the industry runs at about 35% in most of the crafts.

The industry agreed to set up a minority labor pool from among persons recommended by a dozen organizations, including those in the black and Chicano communities. Five of the unions, those dealing mainly with casual work, agreed to send out two workers from the minority pool for every five jobs. This procedure will continue until 20% on the job are minority workers.

For non-casual jobs one out of every five sent out from the hiring halls will be from the newly established minority pool. After two years the minority pool will be merged with the regular list of cameramen, soundmen, costumers and film editors.

While training for the jobs, potential recruits will get wages of at least $100 a week under the agreement.

The film industry has been under considerable pressure to take positive steps to integrate all crafts. Several years ago militant action was taken by the Hollywood NAACP towards this end. The pressure has continued from government agencies as well as from Hollywood personalities.

Soviet no-smog motor

MOSCOW (TASS) — A new automobile engine has been designed in the Soviet Union that will not pollute the air with discharge gas. The engine has been successfully tested by a government commission and has been recommended for serial production.

Chambers attached to each of the cylinders insure the complete burning of gasoline. A small quantity of fuel comes in and, when ignited, burns the lean mixture in the cylinders. Under ordinary conditions, no engine can operate on such a mixture. The innovation makes it possible to save ten percent of the fuel.

Profs flunk Carswell

STANFORD — Twenty-one Stanford Law School professors and administrators have sent 60 Senators a petition opposing the nomination of Judge G. Harrold Carswell to the U.S. Supreme Court.

"Judge Carswell retracted his open espousal of white supremacy only when it became self-serving to do so," the petition maintains.

G. HARROLD CARSWELL

"His conduct in the intervening years — his active participation in the formation of a segregated golf course, his rulings in school desegregation cases, his shockingly discourteous treatment of civil rights lawyers and their clients in his courtroom — make plain Judge Carswell's continued antagonism to the principle of racial equality.

"A man who had spoken and acted in this manner against Catholics or Jews would not even be considered, let alone nominated, for a position on the High Court. We cannot make an exception for Judge Carswell's conduct without breaking faith with the fundamental principles and commitments of our nation."

SF city employes threat of big strike

(Continued from page 1)

Over 800 men and women attended the Local 400 meeting which spilled over from the union auditorium and into the basement. Only 90 voted against the strike.

The unity of the labor movement behind the city employes was demonstrated on March 9 when the labor council turned back a Mayor Joseph Alioto backed maneuver led by Joseph Mazzola of the Plumbers Union.

Mazzola tried to delay the strike a week. But after a caucus of the building trades unions during the labor council meeting, he was persuaded to withdraw his motion.

Janitors and car cleaners at the Muni Railway barns will go out. It is expected bus drivers and carmen will honor the lines.

At S. F. General Hospital, interns and nurses have said they'll walk out. The Stationary Engineers, Local 39, who man "the guts of this hospital," the machinery that supplies all the power, have announced they will honor any picket lines.

Around city schools, picket lines will be thrown up by the school janitors and maintenance men.

KEY DEMANDS

The wage package that precipitated the strike was presented by Supervisor Peter Tamaras, head of the Legislative and Personnel Committee, which also includes James Mailliard and Ron Pelosi.

The supervisors claim that employes are getting a 5% increase. The unions call this "a fraud."

The key sections which the unions call "non-negotiable" and which the supervisors claim saved the city money centered around the regular 5% increases city employes get and the entry rate (starting salaries) of clerks and typists.

For nurses, the dropping of the 15% raise over what private nurses get (an agreement won after the 1966 strike of city nurses) and the elimination of ward differentials (extra pay for ward duty) were key demands not met by the supervisors.

None of the demands of the interns for improved patient care was met nor were they given any salary increases.

Senior doctors at the hospital, while not agreeing to strike, have said they support the legitimate demands of the interns.

PAY CUT

The unions maintain the elimination of the yearly 5% pay increases or incremental increases actually amounts to a pay cut because of skyrocketing living costs.

The Dept. of Labor has said, "For 1969 as a whole increases in consumer prices eroded all the gains in earnings."

For example, librarians are recommended for the 5% pay increase, but all those who now get a night shift differential of 6¼% will have that cout out. That makes a net of 1¼%, the union says.

The setting of a "sub-entry" rate for clerks and typists means that new city employes in those classifications will be starting at a lower salary. The unions estimate this to be five to ten percent lower than the current rates.

For example, using the board's figures, a junior clerk who now starts work at $411 a month, gross, will now start at $382 a month.

This is higher than Bank of America salaries, but in real life, it is not much.

Federal taxes, on the average, will take out $73. The mandatory retirement system takes out another chunk. Most clerks in this classification would then receive about $250-275 per month to live on.

The 5% general pay increase recommended by the board in place of the yearly regular increases, when applied to the 14,000 miscellaneous employes, says the union, means a yearly increase of about $23 or less than $2 a month. This is three-tenths of one percent.

Italy's mass labor surge

(Continued from page 5)

matters as well as the problems of their enterprise.

This victory alters the climate within the factory and changes the position of workers in society in general.

As soon as the general strike broke out and after an agent was killed in a clash with the police in Milan, the right wing extremists launched an offensive.

Groups of fascists, too, went into action and there were instances of provocation. However, the workers' compactness nipped in the bud all such attempts.

The tens of thousands of workers and students who had gathered in the large city square on the day of the funeral of the 14 innocent victims made it perfectly clear that any attempt by the reactionary forces would inevitably meet with unanimous and resolute resistance from the masses.

Photo: Elmer Allen

DRUMMERS HEIGHTEN morale of the Indians in their attempted take-over of Ft. Lawton, Wash. army base, due to be abandoned. About 100 native Americans, representing a planned, united effort by tribes from many western states, failed in their first try, under the slogan "This is our land." Many were arrested but released soon after.

Among the leaders was John Vigil, one of the first on Alcatraz. Others were Bernie White Bear and Sid Mills, both of whom were active in the Frank's Landing fish-ins. Both were badly beaten prior to their release.

'Communist Credo' discovered

(Continued from Page 7)

to prepare the community through enlightenment and rallying together of the proletariat, it means you reject revolution?

Answer: We are convinced not only of the futility but even of the harmfulness of all kinds of conspiracies. We also know that revolution cannot be effected premeditatedly and at will, and that revolution is always and everywhere the necessary outcome of circumstances, which were wholly independent of the will and guidance of individual parties and of whole classes.

But along with this we see that the development of the proletariat is in almost all countries of the world forcibly suppressed by the propertied classes and that thereby the adversaries of communism are working might and main for revolution. If all this in the final count goads the oppressed proletariat to revolution, we shall then defend the cause of the proletariat by deed just as well as we do now by word.

Question 15: Do you wish in place of the present social system to introduce communal ownership at once?

Answer: We do not contemplate this. This development of the masses cannot be decreed. It is conditioned by development of the relations in which these masses live, and therefore takes place gradually.

Question 16: In what way do you think it is possible to carry out the transition from contemporary society to a system founded on communal ownership?

Answer: The first fundamental condition for introducing communal ownership is political emancipation of the proletariat by instituting a democratic state system.

Question 17: What will be your first undertaking after you have instituted democracy?

Answer: Guaranteeing the proletariat the means of subsistence.

Question 18: How do you want to accomplish this?

Answer: 1. By such restriction of private ownership as would gradually prepare its conversion into communal property, for instance, by progressive income taxes, restriction of the right of inheritance in favor of the state and so on.

2. By providing workers employment in national workshops and factories, as well as in national estates.

3. By providing all children at the expense of the state.

Question 19: How do you intend to organize this education in the transition period?

Answer: All children as soon as they are able to dispense with maternal care will be reared and educated in national institutions.

Question 20: Will not communal ownership be accompanied by community of wives?

Answer: Under no circumstances. We shall intervene in the relations of husband and wife, as in the affairs of the family generally, only insofar as the preservation of the existing forms would hamper the new social system.

Generally, we are well aware that in the course of history family relations suffered changes depending on property relations and the periods of development. Hence the abolition of private property will also substantially affect family relations.

Question 21: Will nationalities remain under communism?

Answer: The national characteristics of nations united on commoness of principle, must by such unity merge with one another and in this way disappear just as all classes and class distinctions will disappear because of the destruction of their basis, private property.

Question 22: Do Communists reject the existing religions?

Answer: All hitherto existing religions were an expression of the historical stages of development of individual nations or popular masses. Communism, however, is that stage of development which renders superfluous all existing religions and brings about their disappearance (aufhebt).

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WHAT'S ON

LOS ANGELES

PLEASE RESERVE Saturday, April 11, 1970, 10 a.m. for the 20th Annual Conference of the Los Angeles Comm. for Defense of the Bill of Rights. To be held at the Larchmont Hall, 118 N. Larchmont Blvd., L.A.

BIRTHDAY PARTY for the young in spirit, Phil Saslovsky. Sunday, March 15 — 4 p.m. on. Fine food. Entertainment. Donation: $1.50. Come and honor an oldtimer and help a free press.

DOROTHY HEALEY Telephone Program, 11:30 to 12:30 every Monday night. Radio Station KPFK.

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HOLD THE DATE, March 29 Gracie's 78th birthday celebration.

• WANT ADS

CEMETERY LOT for sale, Walnut Creek. For information call The People's World business manager.

OLD PRESIDENTIAL campaign buttons wanted, $1, $5, $10 paid by collector. Especially Debs, Foster, Browder, Ford. Also buttons supporting a cause. Send to R. Siegel, 5207 Gifford, Cleveland Ohio 44144.

LOS ANGELES

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we raised $50.00 for the PW at a celebration of her 80th birthday, held in the home of her children. We wish her many many years of health and happiness, together with her children and grandchildren, in a world of peace.

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Sunday, March 15, 3 to 5 p.m.
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FILM

The youth market—different things to different directors

MARK FRECHETTE & DARIA HALPRIN IN 'ZABRISKI POINT'

ZABRISKIE POINT. A film by Michelangelo Antonioni.
PRELUDE. Directed by Robin Spry. Screenplay by Sherwood Forest, based on a story by Spry and Forest.

TWO YEARS ago, Arthur Penn made "Bonnie and Clyde," a film about violence in the U.S. that used some fairly far-out cinematography and took a hard tone toward this country.

Initially the critics panned it, but it became the hit of the year. It seemed everybody born during and after World War II was going to see "Bonnie and Clyde." Producers and financeers picked up the almanacs and noticed there had been a lot of people born since World War II. The Youth Market had been discovered; war babies love violence.

Last year it was "Easy Rider," a slick, cliche-ridden, skinny excuse for a film that ran away with the chicken-heart of the U.S. It was so romantic, and so hip, and so safe. Two hours of tolerance in a darkened theater watching the actors smoke marijuana on the giant screen, then back to the new car and the old life.

THIS YEAR Michelangelo Antonioni wants to make it "Zabriski Point." After a series of successful "art" films, culminating in "Blow Up," Antonioni has made his first film in and about the U.S. Until this film, he had enjoyed a reputation as one of the world's foremost film directors.

You might not believe the plot of "Zabriski Point." There's this young radical ex-student, see. He attends meetings with Frank Bardacke and Kathleen Cleaver but he gets kicked out of college for breaking into the Dean's office and re-programming the computer. So now he is just a radical.

He gets busted for mouthing off at the local prison where he is visiting a friend. After he gets out, he goes and buys some guns. The next thing you know he is at a demonstration where he sees brutal cops assaulting pretty-faced kids. He gets so made, he draws his revolver out of his boot and shoots a cop (it turns out later that maybe he didn't shoot the cop, but it doesn't make any difference). After that, he appears on the TV news and has to leave town.

SO OUR hero takes the course that "any revolutionary" would take —he wanders into an airport and steals a private plane.

At the same time there's this young girl, see. She is driving through the desert toward Phoenix and a working-type rendevous with her boss. The two young people have a brief courtship when the young radical buzzes her Buick with his little plane.

The two of them walk around the desert amid the beautiful photography, making jokes and love with the same lack of wit and passion. They talk about whether life is meaningless or not, but they don't come to a conclusion.

Eventually, they paint his plane all sorts of kooky colors and he gets in and flies back to Los Angeles to face justice. I will give away the ending by revealing the fact that he is shot by some more brutal cops while landing the plane in what must be the most unintentionally ridiculous scene ever filmed.

The girl goes to meet her boss, but she hears of the boy's death. In grief, she runs out of the expensive mansion in the middle of the desert. She turns around to face it and imagines it exploding in slow motion in the air. The last few minutes of the film consist of exquisitely slow motion sequences of explosions.

IT IS impossible to take this film seriously. There are no reasons for anything. Cops are brutal because cops are brutal and students are violent because students are violent. The fact that Antonioni sympathizes with the students doesn't give sense to this idiot view of reality. Sympathy without understanding is a liability.

The strange thing about "Zabriski Point" is that there is no indication of Antonioni's talent. The bad script might have been obscured by brilliant camerawork or fine acting, but the camera seems to have been anesthetized and all the sweeping views of the desert are empty, without feeling.

The acting of newcomers Mark Frechette and Daria Halprin is — well, it's hardly acting at all. Frechette is as handsome and as hollow as an innertube; he looks like an ivy-league son on a TV series. Daria Halprin looks as though she were bred for the Olympics and, apparently, both of them were directed to imitate zombies.

Fred Gardner, who re-wrote parts of "Zabriski Point," claims that the film is not about the movement and that, in fact, the central character can't stand the movement. Very well. It may well be that instead of being a lousy film about supposed young radicals, "Zabriski Point" is a lousy film about young egotists.

"PROLOGUE" IS another new film aimed at the youth market. But it should be said at once that it is a much more dignified attempt than Antonioni's film.

This is a low-budget, black-and-white film produced by the Canadian Film Board. It concerns a young Canadian couple who consider themselves part of the movement. He edits and sells an underground street newspaper and she dances in a go-go club to support them. They take in a strange, calm, U.S. draft dodger who begins his stay by paying their overdue rents and ends it by disrupting their lives.

After a conversation with Abbie Hoffman, who makes a brief, very funny appearance, the couple decides to go to the 1968 Chicago demonstrations. At the last moment, the girl chooses, instead, to follow the draft refugee to a country commune. Thus, the fim makes explicit the more obvious choices open to any young person in the country today: fight or plant.

Commune life isn't given it's due in the film; it is represented by a couple of short lyrical sequences and a bad-vibes discussion around the commune dinner table. The work of building and planting isn't even shown.

The young editor (played well by John Robb, formally of the San Francisco Mime Troupe) makes his way to Chicago armed with a cassette tape recorded to record material for his paper. This part of the film was shot in Chicago during the demonstrations, so we see Robb sitting around chanting with Allen Ginsburg, listening to Dick Gregory, William Burroughs and Jean Genet speak.

There is some good footage of street action and Robb does a good job of interviewing some stockyard neighborhood kids. But the scenes do not present a vivid, coherent picture of living through several days of street action. Perhaps not enough time was spent on them.

Even though neither of the alternatives are shown fully, they are presented in bold strokes and the choice is made very visible.

There is more veracity in any five minutes of "Prologue" than in the whole of "Zabriski Point." It takes the movement and our lives seriously.

And because it was shot in real conditions it is a more real film; the technique of the hand-held camera allows action to take place in real settings rather than studios and rented locations. The core of its reality is that the characters' choices are the choices of young people today.

THE RECOGNITION of the youth market means different things to different people. To Antonioni and Hopper it means profit by exploitation; to others it means a chance to make significant, relevant films.

"Prologue" doesn't make it as a great film. But its intentions seem pure and probably it will be seen as the ancestor of several great films.

—KEN AND CHARLOTTE MARGOLIS

BOOKS

Ex-Panther's cultural nationalist view

PICKING UP THE GUN: A Report on the Black Panthers. By Earl Anthony. New York: Dial Press.

Photo by Leroy Lucas

EARL ANTHONY
Expelled from Panthers

EARL ANTHONY, who was expelled from the Black Panther party, deftly weaves a detectable thread of discontent throughout his report on the Panthers.

But in the last chapter of his 160 pages of description of people, events and impressions, his true cultural nationalist views unfold.

The author's light easy command of the English language makes the book fast reading as he deals with Panther activities from the period of late 1966 up to March, 1969.

HE ADMITS most of the book was written while he was still a member of the Panthers.

Anthony was born in Roanoke, Virginia in 1941 and was raised in New York and Los Angeles. He received his B.A. degree in 1963 from the University of Southern California.

With intentions of becoming a lawyer he attended the Golden Gate College of Law in San Francisco but dropped out in 1967.

He subsequently became Panther Deputy Minister of Information of Southern California, writing regularly for the Panther newspaper and traveling all over the world for the Panthers.

THE PURPOSE of the book crystallizes in the last chapter:

"I had **never** been committed to the political concept embraced by the Party that blacks and whites **should** and **could** integrate their efforts to work toward revolution in America. However, I had never openly opposed it. First because it was party policy to favor coalition efforts and, second, because I was subconsciously, I realize as I look back on it, taking a wait and see approach, knowing of course, that I **might** be letting my emotions about this very fundamental political question dictate the way I acted."

Another thing Anthony says that definitely points out the anti-Marxist, cultural nationalist nature of his attack on the Panthers is revealed as he talks about making up his mind to leave the Panthers:

"I believe it was somewhere around the time the Party was formulating its political ideology based on an analysis of society in terms of class exploitation — but I did not accept this ideology. . . "

Anthony says he left his post in Los Angeles and went to New York, Montreal, Paris, and in Sweden he finally heard he had been expelled from the Panther party.

IT SHOULD be sufficient to say that this book is an attack on the Black Panther party and that a ruthless struggle must be waged in the black community against the cultural nationalists who spearhead this attack.

—RONALD STEVENSON

CDC meeting at Fresno—'obviously weakened'

FRESNO — The Brown vs. Tunney battle for endorsement by the California Democratic Council turned out to be a mismatch here as Congressman John Tunney, as the son of the former heavyweight champ, failed to lay a glove on his opponent, a life-long pacifist.

Tunney hardly won the right to get his name on the marquee, getting only 2 votes more than the 50 needed to have his name put before the 17th annual convention of the CDC held here March 6, 7, and 8.

No one here really expected a close match. But the overwhelming endorsement of Congressman George Brown Jr., for the Democratic nomination for U.S. Senate by a 644 to 52 vote exceeded the high hopes of some of Brown's campaigners.

The failure of the Senatorial contest to excite the delegates here was indicative of this convention, which turned out to be far less exciting than many other CDC conventions.

The expected 1,000 delegates failed to materialize. Only 734 were present. This number must be viewed as highly inflated, since representation was based on one delegate for every ten club members. Past conventions had one for every twenty. Included among them were only 34 delegates from chartered Democratic clubs not affiliated with the CDC.

This tended to make a mockery of the infight in CDC top echelons over the past months on the "open convention" concept. Assemblyman John Burton, CDC president, led the majority of the organization's board in the fight to open the endorsing convention to all Democratic Party clubs. This was vehemently opposed by some board members, including Southern California's Ben Leeds, who unsuccessfully argued it would further weaken CDC's independent role.

This was one of the issues facing an obviously weakened CDC. An attempt to revive this fight at the convention fell flat since nobody was about to evict the handful of Democrats who had come here to participate in the "open convention."

It was announced that the CDC now has about 10,000 members with the organization showing growth in Northern California and a decline in the south. Northern California delegates outnumbered those from the south. It was generally conceded that membership actually is somewhat below the 10,000 mark even though the claim that CDC remains the largest volunteer organization in the U.S. appears to be accurate.

In line with Burton's repeated admonitions that this is the year to "beat Reagan" the convention dutifully, if unenthusiastically almost unanimously endorsed Minority Assembly Leader Jess Unruh for governor. Some flack was created by a resolution which called on all of the people of California to rally to Unruh's banner.

Some delegates were deeply disturbed by Unruh's talk at the convention, during which he said "campus disorders such as we saw at Santa Barbara are an outrage to a civilized society."

Unruh hit out hard at Reagan and his supporters but he aimed strong fire at campus militants whom he saw as standing between the Democratic candidates and possible victory in November. Sometimes it was hard to distinguish who Unruh thought the main enemy was, campus militants or the Reagan administration.

Congressman Brown, on the other hand, came out with a forthright liberal anti-war position in his prenomination speech. His stand was welcomed by those who were disturbed by his earlier, ambivalent positions.

Brown, for instance, had urged the CDC to back both him and Tunney.

Yet Brown too took some of the shine off the bloom when he devoted most of his speech to a plea for campus peace. His words were far more conciliatory than Unruh's, but the impact was the same.

The only real rhubarb of the convention came during the prolonged discussion on ecology. The abstract speeches sent the delegates into the lobby in droves. Among those who remained to listen, many agreed with Samuel Sheats, black president of the Altadena Democratic club, who called for a discussion of the problems of the people, not just that of the atmosphere and the earth.

For more than 1½ hours the delegates heard a series of black and Chicano speakers discuss racism, school busing, and related subjects in what Burton said "has to be one of the high points of this convention."

Growing out of that discussion came the first CDC resolution adopted by the session. It called for a new emphasis on fulfilling the integration mandate of the Supreme Court and declared that "school boundaries must immediately be redrawn to desegregate schools and that in some cases busing will be necessary and desirable to achieve racial balance in the schools."

The delegates barely gave approval to the endorsement of State Sen. Alfred Alquist for Lt. Governor. Alquist, the choice of many legislators, did not appear before the convention. He got 457 votes, compared to 161 for Cecilia Pedroza, a virtual unknown who has never held public office.

Minimum number of votes necessary for endorsement was 440, sixty percent of the delegates.

One of the big surprises at the convention came in the nomination of Chicano attorney Herman Sillas, of Los Angeles, for state controller. A very recently announced candidated, his name was put into nomination by Democratic party national committeeman Stephen Reinhart. He faced Orange County Democratic party central committee chairman John Dean in a head to head match. The delegates chose Sillas over Dean by 477 to 127 votes.

Former state public utilities commissioner William Bennett's name was placed in nomination for the attorney general post and even though he was not present at the convention and some doubt was raised about his availability for the race he got 488 votes and the endorsement.

Edmund G. Brown, Jr., of Los Angeles, was endorsed for secretary of state and Milton Gordon for state treasurer. Both were unopposed.

A bruising fight over the possible endorsement of a candidate for the Supt. of Public Instruction was avoided by the decision not to endorse any candidate for that office. Three of those running against incumbent Max Rafferty spoke. They called for unity behind the front runner in the June 2 primary to guarantee defeating Rafferty in November.

Cranston hits Nixon's lies on Laos

FRESNO — Just a few hours after President Nixon made public the Administration's version of what has been happening in Laos which insisted that no U. S. ground troops have been fighting there, U.S. Senator Alan Cranston last Friday night (March 6) speaking at the opening session of the California Democratic Council accused Nixon of "not telling it the way it is."

"I charge that American military advisors have fought in combat in Laos in the past. I charge that some are fighting there now," the junior Senator from California told the 700 delegates at the Fresno Convention Center.

Cranston said he had talked with U. S. servicemen who had been in Laos and they had informed him "that they were told to say they had gotten lost if discovered in Laos."

Of the almost 4000 Californians who have died in Vietnam, Cranston said, "nearly 1100 have died since Richard Nixon became president. He accused the Nixon Administration of "pursuing a double risk policy that could keep American troops in Southeast Asia for years."

"Clear signs that our military involvement in the war in Laos is being escalated in much the same way we escalated in Vietnam in 1965" was cited as one aspect of the dual risk policy. And the highly touted "Vietnamization" policy "is beginning to look more and more like a convenient way to create an army of South Vietnamese mercenaries to continue a conflict which is neither in our national interest nor that of the Vietnamese people."

"THE RESISTANCE IS MOUNTING," these are some of the last words Bobby Seale, awaiting extradition to Connecticut. The Black Panther party chariman told a People's World repoter he was cheered by the nationwide reaction to the Chicago conspiracy case verdict. He expressed pleasure at the news of the California railway workers resistance to Administration efforts to keep them from striking.

Nixon forces railmen back to work; they go bitter, angry and frustrated

LOS ANGELES — Angry, bitter and frustrated railroad workers returned to work on the Southern Pacific Tuesday morning (March 9) after having been off their jobs four days.

The job action here, a protest against the congressional compliance with President Nixon's demand for legislation to bar a railroad strike, was duplicated in Sacramento and Roseville, also major SP terminals.

"We'll show this f - - - - - - fascist government after the 37 days are over," said one railroad worker upon returning to work. Congress had hastily passed a law barring the strike for 37 days.

The solidarity of the railroad workers here was unprecedented during the four day action. It was a protest against the action of President Nixon, Congress, the railroads and some of the national leaders of the railroad unions.

Officially there was no strike. The mutual resentment of the railroad workers was passed on by word of mouth.

At first the signs in front of the yards used the word "strike." When the courts got into the act and it became apparent there might be heavy legal penalties for striking, the placards were changed to read "protest." When it appeared that even this too might bring about legal penalties the men just walked around with signs saying "God Bless America." The irony of this latter sign was not lost on the trade union movement here.

Many of those carrying placards were young workers and on some of their signs they had inscribed the peace emblem. This was believed to be one of the few times that this has taken place in this area in a labor dispute.

Out of about 800 carmen working in the SP yards here less than 10 are believed to have been on the job during the protest action. The response of workers in other crafts was similarly overwhelming.

Faced with wholesale contempt citations by a Sacramento judge, the railroad workers began to see "total repression" go into operation. This was the term many of the railroaders used.

U.S. marshalls, whom the railroaders called "the gestapo," came to the protest lines, photographed those on it, and handed out contempt citations. More than 30 were believed to have been distributed here. Railroaders here said that over 200 were handed down against workers throughout the state.

When it became apparent that the government would not press the court action if the workers returned to work by Tuesday morning they grudgingly agreed to return to work, and prepare for the biggest railroad walkout at the end of the 37 day period.

Railroad workers with whom the People's World spoke specifically asked that their names not be used. "The right to strike — to protest — no longer exists for us and it is better we not give our names out at this time," one active railroad unionist said. "We've learned in a few days what lots of other people have been saying about fascism in America. They haven't been kidding even though most of us wouldn't believe them. We sure as hell believe them now."